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DELEGATIONS

DEMOCRATIC LEADER FRIENDS OF IRELAND CAUCUS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, VC 20515

September 4, 2024

The Rt Hon Keir Starmer MP Prime Minister 10 Downing Street London, United Kingdom SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister Starmer,

I wish to once again offer my sincere congratulations on your recent election as Prime Minister. As you assume this role, I want to bring to your attention a matter of great importance to the United Kingdom and relations between our two countries.

I have long followed the Pat Finucane case since his tragic murder in 1989 – my first year in Congress. Since then, I have remained in frequent contact with the Finucane family, supporting their continued advocacy in pursuit of truth and justice. I am pleased that the British government will be revisiting the legacy legislation that passed Parliament last year, and I strongly encourage you to make this case a top priority.

The importance of establishing an independent public inquiry cannot be understated. My colleagues and I in the United States Congress have long supported such an inquiry, as have other democratic governments around the world. I believe the evidence is compelling and an investigation is the only way to deliver answers that families like the Finucane family deserve. The Good Friday Agreement, which the United Kingdom, Ireland, and the United States worked diligently to achieve, is underscored by the principles of truth and justice. Delivering on these principles for the victims of the Troubles is what will encourage those to look toward the future, not the past.

I am optimistic that under your leadership, we will continue to advance the values set forth in the Good Friday Agreement and bring the perpetrators of crimes committed during the Troubles to justice. I look forward to working with you and supporting your government's efforts in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Neal Member of Congress

cc: Dame Karen Pierce DCMG, Her Majesty's Ambassador to the United States The Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland