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May 10th, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. President:

The mission of the Institute for Voices of Liberty (iVOL) is to amplify the voices of freedom-seeking Iranians within Iran. It is more important now than ever to support them against their oppressors.

I write to you to request the support of the White House and the State Department for the bipartisan H.R. 589 Mahsa Amini Human rights and Security Accountability Act (MAHSA Act), named in honor of Mahsa Amini who was murdered last year by Iran's so-called morality police.

The purpose of the MAHSA Act is to require the President to impose property- and visa-blocking sanctions on certain persons affiliated with the governing regime in Iran, including the Supreme Leader.

In the interest of increasing pressure upon the Islamic Republic, and of providing maximum support for the freedom-seeking people of Iran, we request your public support and endorsement of the MAHSA Act.

Every day, the Islamic Republic commits further outrages upon the people of Iran. Only yesterday, we were informed that Manouchehr Bakhtiari, a well-known political prisoner, and his wife, Nahid Shirpisheh, are to be sentenced tomorrow on trumped-up charges. They are likely to face execution.

Manouchehr and Nahid are the parents of Pouya Bakhtiari, who was murdered by the regime's security forces during a peaceful protest on November 16, 2019. The Islamic Republic in Iran has targeted Pouya's parents because they too have dared to raise their voices for justice and liberty.

The plight of Manouchehr and Nahid is not an isolated case. There are countless freedom-seeking prisoners of conscience who await long prison sentences, torture and possible executions. The most prominent of these include:

- Majid Tavakoli - Reporter
- Tomaj Salehi - Rapper
- Saman Yasin - Rapper
- Korkur Mujahed - Innocent bystander
- Milad Armon - Protester
- Jamshid Sharmahd - Activist
- Fatemeh Sepehri – Imprisoned Activist
- Mohammadi Ghodsi - Activist
- Nilufar Hamedi - Reporter who broke the Mahsa Amini story
- Sepideh Qalyan - Labor organizer
- Mohammad Broghini - Activist
- Mohammad Qabadlou - Protester
- Soheila Hijab - Monarchist activist
- Reza Nowruzi - Monarchist activist

Those opponents of the Islamic Republic must not suffer in vain. Their names must never be forgotten. And so, I invite you to join us in continuing their struggle against tyranny by endorsing the MAHSA Act.

With sincere gratitude and our very best personal regards,

On Behalf of iVOL's Board of Directors;



Mr. Bijan Kian
Co-founder and President



Mr. Sam Kermanian
Co-founder and Director