

**CAPITOL OFFICE**  
506 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
PHONE: (202) 225-6235

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
515 S. FIGUEROA STREET, SUITE 1040  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071  
PHONE: (213) 481-1425

**GOMEZ.HOUSE.GOV**



## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

JIMMY GOMEZ

34TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

October 8, 2025

**COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
Subcommittee on Tax  
Subcommittee on Worker and Family  
Support

**COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE**  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on CIA

**DEPUTY WHIP FOR POLICY**

**CONGRESSIONAL DADS CAUCUS**  
Founder & Chair

**CONGRESSIONAL RENTERS CAUCUS**  
Founder & Chair

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington DC, 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

I write to urgently follow up on my previous letter, dated October 5th, urging immediate action by the State Department and the Trump administration to protect and free the detained crew and passengers Global Sumud Flotilla. My office has now confirmed that a second flotilla carrying vital humanitarian aid, led by the Freedom Flotilla Coalition and Thousand Madleens to Gaza has been intercepted, and nearly 145 passengers and crew detained. Among the detained is my constituent Emily Wilder, a member of the press, who was reporting on the flotilla's attempt to bring humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza.

**As the Representative of Emily Wilder in Congress, I must insist on an immediate update from your department on the efforts being made to secure her safe treatment and immediate release.**

It is my responsibility to remind you of your solemn legal and moral duty to advocate and protect the rights of detained Americans, and secure their speedy release from detention, consistent with how the State Department responds to detentions worldwide. It is essential that the State Department bring its full diplomatic resources to bear to ensure that Ms. Wilder, and all US citizens and resident detainees are treated in a manner consistent with US and international law.

Again, I must express alarm that many of the recent flotilla interceptions have taken place in international waters. I must stress that these flotillas were intended to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza, where millions face starvation and are in desperate need of life-saving resources. I continue to call for overwhelming humanitarian relief to be delivered immediately, the safe return of the October 7th hostages, accountability through the dismantling of Hamas, an ironclad commitment to protect civilians, a swift end to military operations, and a permanent ceasefire.

Failure to take immediate and comprehensive action to secure the release of Ms. Wilder and other detainees would implicate your department and the Trump administration in an unconscionable abandonment of basic American principles and a dangerous undermining of our diplomatic standing internationally. Please provide me with an update on the status of Ms. Wilder and other detainees, and your plan to protect their well-being as soon as practically possible

Sincerely,

Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress