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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster, Senior  
Reviewer

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COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

The Honorable Hillary Clinton  
Secretary of State  
U.S. State Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton,

I would like to thank you for maintaining the State Department's policy since 2005 of denying a U.S. travel visa to Chief Minister Narendra Modi, leader of the state government of Gujarat, India for his role in the 2002 riots in that state. At this time I would like to reiterate my support for keeping this policy in place and denying Mr. Modi a visa to visit the United States.

As you know, Mr. Modi and his government have been accused of complicity in the 2002 riots in Gujarat state which left over a thousand innocent civilians dead. As we mark a decade since these tragic events, Mr. Modi is still in power in Gujarat and much of the violence remains unpunished. In the name of accountability and justice for the victims of these horrific events, Mr. Modi should not be granted the privilege of travel to the United States. Allowing Mr. Modi to visit the United States would constitute a sanction of these acts of violence, and would be detrimental to the productive relationship between the United States and India.

As a member of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Affairs, I believe the United States and India should be proud of our partnership, which continues to grow stronger every day. India sets an example as the most populous democracy in the world. However, nations who share the values of freedom and democracy cannot condone egregious violations of religious freedom and the rule of law such as the 2002 Gujarat riots. A visit by Narendra Modi to the United States would seriously compromise those ideals. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress