

October 20, 2020

The Honorable Kamala Harris
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nanette Barragan
United States House of Representatives
1030 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Request for action and mobilization in support of ethnic Armenians in the Republic of Artsakh

The Carson City Council comes together in solidarity with the ethnic Armenians in the Republic of Artsakh, also known as Nagorno-Karabakh, to condemn Azerbaijan's coordinated offensive and denounce Turkish interference in the conflict.

In 1994 a provisional ceasefire agreement was brokered through the OSCE Minsk Group to encourage a peaceful, negotiated resolution to the conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh territory. Yet on September 27, 2020, following increasingly aggressive rhetoric and destabilizing actions by Azerbaijan, their government declared war, mobilized their forces and engaged in unprovoked military action against the Republic of Artsakh. Azerbaijan's bombing of the city of Stepanakert, the country's capital and most densely populated city, has led to the deaths of dozens of civilians and over eighty government service members, and wounded hundreds.

Although this conflict is far removed from the United States, this is a humanitarian issue and necessitates the attention of the world while an entire nation is being systematically attacked with the goal of elimination. This conflict also has the potential to escalate warfare amongst regional powers and threatens the peace and stability of not only the Armenian population that has lived in Artsakh for millennia, but is also a direct threat to regional stability fundamental to the United States' interests.

The Carson City Council calls upon the United States government to collaborate with co-chairs of the Minsk Group in an effort to resolve this matter before there is more needless bloodshed. As members of the Minsk Group, the US should utilize all reasonable political and diplomatic means possible to compel Azerbaijan to participate meaningfully in the process towards lasting

peace for the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh; ensuring the sovereignty and freedom of the Republic of Artsakh.

Albert Robles, Mayor

Jim Dear, Mayor Pro Tem

Lula Davis-Holmes, Councilmember

Jawane Hilton, Councilmember

Cedric L. Hicks, Sr., Councilmember