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June 30, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

Ahead of your trip to Saudi Arabia, I would like to express my deep concerns regarding the activities of the Saudi golf league, also known as LIV Golf, which is actively hosting tournaments on U.S. soil and recruiting top American players to enhance its product and brand. LIV is entirely funded by Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund, Saudi oil revenue that is dependent on the whims of a monarch whose nation has an atrocious human rights record and has at times acted in a brutal and hostile way to the United States and our citizens.

LIV is promoted primarily as a way to diversify the Saudi economy. However, it is also an attempt by the Saudi government to "sports-wash" its reputation by focusing the American public's attention on Saudi Arabia's association with a popular U.S. sport and away from its government officials' links to abhorrent acts, such as the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, the war in Yemen, support for terrorist activities, including the September 11 attacks, and a myriad of other human rights violations. Notably, even in the face of newly disclosed and compelling evidence, Saudi Arabia has continued to resolutely resist any accountability for its alleged role in the 9/11 attacks or its officials' relationships with the 9/11 hijackers. It has rejected even minimal demands for disclosure by the 9/11 families.

From the Senate to the White House, you have long been a champion of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. Your track record of standing up to dictators, bullies, and those who flagrantly disregard international law and norms is impressive. In 2019, you said Saudi Arabia needs to be treated like the pariah state that it is, and while I recognize the value of your upcoming trip, I strongly urge you keep your focus on human rights. Stand firm on truth, accountability, and justice by urging the Saudi Arabian government to reset its conduct through respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Sincerely,



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator