

[NOTE: COPY OF CORESPONDENCE TEXT]

From: Robert McCaw

Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 1:33 PM

To: Robert McCaw <rmccaw@cair.com>

Cc: Edward Ahmed Mitchell <e-Mitchell@cair.com>; Shafiquil Muhshna <smuhshna@cair.com>

Subject: Invite To Visit Mosque in Your District and Dialogue with American Muslim Constituents

[An open correspondence to the members of the "Sharia Free America Caucus"]

Greetings:

On behalf of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, I am writing to invite you and other members of the "Sharia Free America Caucus" to visit a mosque in your district and engage in dialogue with your American Muslim constituents. We would be happy to facilitate such a visit and connect you with a local mosque at your convenience.

American Muslims are part of every state and nearly every congressional district. They are military veterans, small business owners, educators, and families whose religion and free speech rights are protected under the U.S. Constitution.

Much of the rhetoric about Muslims that the caucus has expressed in recent months involves misinformation about "sharia," an Arabic word for "the path." Sharia refers to the various rules that Muslims follow, including guidance related to prayer, charity, diet, cleanliness, ethical conduct, and family matters such as marriages, adoptions, and wills, analogous to the guidance found in Catholic canon law and Jewish halakha.

Contrary to the caucus' assertions, these personal religious practices do not replace, supersede or contradict the Constitution, which guarantees every American the right to practice his or her faith so long as their faith practices do not violate American law.

Furthermore, those aspects of canon law, halakah, and sharia which relate to matters that only a government could enforce (such as rules in the Bible and the Quran related to criminal punishments, taxation, etc.) obviously cannot be enforced and are not being enforced in the United States.

As you know, over the past year, supporters of the Israeli government have attempted to resurrect hysteria about "sharia law" in an attempt to 1) smear and marginalize American Muslims critical of Israel's genocide in Gaza, 2) distract the American public, especially political conservatives, from that genocide, and 3) win contested primaries by using Muslims as a political boogeyman and securing funding from anti-Palestinian, anti-Muslim donors.

These efforts to stir fear about American Muslims for political gain are failing, hence why numerous elected officials who made anti-Muslim bigotry the center piece of their campaigns in places like Texas either lost their races or underperformed.

Polling increasingly shows that a clear majority of Americans across the political spectrum, do not want their elected officials to take money from foreign lobby groups like AIPAC and or

vote to provide unconditional financial and military support for the Israeli government's killing of American citizens, genocide in Gaza, expansion of illegal apartheid settlements in the West Bank, and attacks on Christian communities in Palestine and Lebanon.

With this in mind, we invite you to connect with your local Muslim community at a local mosque, where you can engage in dialogue and ask any questions on your mind. This invitation is extended sincerely to every office on this thread.

If members of your caucus are going to speak about Islam and American Muslims on the House floor, you should be willing to meet the Muslim Americans in your own districts. Direct engagement is what your constituents expect.

Again, we would be glad to coordinate a visit with a mosque or Islamic center in your district at your convenience. Please reply directly so we can assist with scheduling.

Sincerely,

Robert S. McCaw

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