JAMES E. CLYBURN 6TH DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAJORITY WHIP

CHAIR FAITH WORKING GROUP



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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4006

April 27, 2020

Greetings:

Ramadan Mubarak to the Muslim community of South Carolina and the 6th Congressional District, other worshipers across the United States, and believers around the world. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic has required us to modify the ways we practice our faith traditions in order to protect and preserve our families and the public. Although this month's Ramadan celebration faces a unique challenge, I am confident that worshipers will find their faith fortified as we work to connect virtually and demonstrate that we can be just as faithful in private as we are in public.

I am honored to have been selected by Islamic Relief USA as the Honorary Host of their 10th Annual Capitol Hill Ramadan Interfaith Iftar. Within a decade, IRUSA's annual Ramadan dinner has become a tradition in the U.S. House of Representatives, providing an opportunity for my Congressional colleagues and I to break bread with Muslim leaders and learn about your humanitarian work.

I am saddened that this crisis has led to the event's postponement, but we can all take encouragement from some of IRUSA's timely efforts in response to the pandemic. The organization has committed nearly \$2 million in funding, which has gone to at least 40 social service organizations across the country to provide food aid, hygiene supplies, and protective masks to select communities impacted by COVID-19.

This pandemic is incredibly challenging to all of us. In times of such uncertainty, we seek comfort in our faith traditions. Even though this is a time of concern and seclusion for many, it is also a time to allow faith and traditions to amplify our resilience and bring us closer to our family, friends and fellow worshipers.

I look forward to the future when we can all once again, come together, break bread, and give thanks for the good in life. In the meantime, stay home and stay holy!

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

James E. Clyburn

House Majority Whip