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February 4, 2016

Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston
88 Tappan Street
Brookline, MA 024445

To Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston,


I am thrilled to congratulate you on the fortieth year of the Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston.

For forty years the festival has provided a space for fans of Israeli folk-dancing in Massachusetts to gather, celebrate, and learn from one another. It has also provided a stage for performers to demonstrate the art and range of Israeli folk dance. They have given some truly wonderful performances over the years, and I am sure that this year will be no different.

But the festival's impact extends beyond the stage. This anniversary also represents forty years of showcasing the vibrancy and multiplicity of Jewish culture and the flourishing Massachusetts Jewish community. I am proud to live in a place where religious and cultural diversity are not only present but celebrated year after year.

This year's festival honoree is each and every one of you in the audience today, and that to me really sums up the spirit of community that this festival represents. To each of you who have worked year after year to make this festival a success: thank you. I hope there are many more anniversaries to come.

All my best,



Joe Kennedy III
Member of Congress