

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 6, 2022

State Senator Ram Villivalam  
3851 W. Devon Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60659

State Representative Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz  
1812 Waukegan Rd., Suite B  
Glenview, IL 60025


Dear Senator Villivalam and Representative Gong-Gershowitz:

As Members of Congress who are deeply engaged on issues of concern to the Assyrian-American community, we strongly welcome the establishment of the Illinois Assyrian Caucus in the Illinois General Assembly. This development is an important step to further promote awareness and understanding to the many challenges faced by the Assyrian-American community.

The formation of the Illinois Assyrian Caucus is great news for Assyrian-Americans across Illinois, and further establishes our state as the most welcoming in the nation. We have had the privilege to work to address Assyrian-American priorities in Congress, where we have helped amplify community voices, including in supporting recognition of the Assyrian Genocide. We are glad this work will continue at the state-level under this new banner.

We look forward to coordinating with the members of the Illinois Assyrian Caucus to advance knowledge and understanding of the Assyrian culture and improve access to the community's cultural resources. We congratulate you on your leadership in convening this caucus and encourage members of the Illinois General Assembly whose districts are home to Assyrian-Americans to join.

Sincerely,

  
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

  
Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress

  
Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

  
Bradley S. Schneider  
Member of Congress