**Message Template for Expression of Outrage and Alarm Over**

**the Massive Lobbying Effort in the United States by the**

**Regime in Ethiopia.**

Significant modification of this template is recommended to give it a personal touch as a constituent, voter, political orientation, special areas of concern and expertise, membership in a profession or trade and other relevant factors in communicating with the Trump Administration and members of Congress.

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Date

I am writing to urgently express my concerns about the massive lobbying effort currently undertaken by the regime in Ethiopia to peddle influence in your Administration and in the U.S. Congress and the Trump Administration.

The danger of influence peddling by foreign governments in the American policy making process is something George Washington warned about in his farewell speech.

I am not alone in opposing the outrageous lobbying efforts of the Ethiopia regime in the U.S. The vast majority of Americans are opposed to the corrosive effects of foreign lobbying in the U.S.

At a time when twenty million Ethiopians are facing famine and starvation and the call for international aid is being made, the regime in Ethiopia finds it more important to spend nearly $2 million to feed high-powered lobbyist.

The U.S. should not give a single red cent in aid to a regime that prefers to feed lobbyists instead of millions of children facing imminent death by famine and starvation.

During the campaign, you promised that “If we win on November 8th, we are going to Washington, D.C.—when we win, OK—and we are going to drain the swamp.” It is time to drain the lobby swamp now to ensure that foreign governments do not effectively hijack American political institutions by spending millions of dollars on lobbying.

I strongly urge you to undertake the following: 1) direct USAID to investigate how much of the U.S. aid given the regime in Ethiopia is used for lobbying purposes; 2) direct the Justice Department to monitor the lobbying efforts of the Ethiopian regime and investigate any improper political and economic activities in the U.S. in violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act or other similar laws. In 2016, the regime in Ethiopia agreed to pay $6.5 million dollars to the Securities and Exchange Commission to settle charges of illegal bond sales in the U.S. 3) issue an executive order directing heightened monitoring in all federal agencies of foreign governments lobbying in the U.S.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Name and contact information