

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 25, 2012

His Excellency Andrius Kubilius
Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania
Gedimino Ave. 11
Lt – 01103 Vilnius
Lithuania

Dear Prime Minister Kubilius,

As Members of Congress, we are deeply committed to maintaining strong ties between the United States and Lithuania.

We are writing to express our deep concern regarding the reburial of Juozas Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis, who served as the acting Prime Minister of the Provisional Government of Lithuania from June to August 1941. Ambrazevičius -Brazaitis died in the United States in 1974 and was reburied with honors in Lithuania in May 2012 with a commemoration of his life and legacy.

We wish to share the pain and anger that this decision has caused Holocaust survivors and the wider Jewish community. Holocaust historian Dr. Efraim Zuroff of the Simon Wiesenthal Center described the decision to rebury Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis as “an absolute outrage.”

Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis was the leader of the Provisional Government of Lithuania which was formed by the Lithuanian Activist Front (LAF). The LAF collaborated with the forces of Nazi Germany. An LAF essay stated, "The Lithuanian Activist Front, by restoring the new Lithuania, is determined to carry out an immediate and fundamental purging of the Lithuanian nation and its land of Jews, parasites and monsters...." The incitement to murder was vicious and unrelenting; Lithuanian Jews were murdered at an astonishingly rapid rate.

We believe that the reburial of Ambrazevičius-Brazaitis undermines efforts to counter anti-Semitism and to recognize the crimes of the Nazis and their collaborators.

We hope you will take concrete steps to demonstrate your government's commitment to accurate historical portrayal and recognize the darkest realities of the Holocaust.

Thank you.

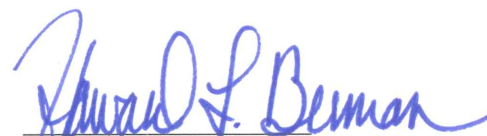
Sincerely,



BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress



HENRY WAXMAN
Member of Congress



HOWARD BERMAN
Member of Congress