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Congressman Lee M. Zeldin
First Congressional District of New York

June 7, 2021

Acting Assistant Secretary Naz Durakoğlu
U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Legislative Affairs
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Acting Assistant Secretary Durakoğlu,

The United States Department of State recently announced sanctions against the former President and Prime Minister of Albania, Sali Berisha, citing involvement in significant corruption. Under these sanctions, Berisha, his wife and his children are banned from traveling to the United States. Sali Berisha has historically enjoyed strong relationships with United States leaders, causing many to question this sudden decision.

Following the opportunity to discuss these sanctions with Secretary Blinken today during a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing, I am requesting access to all information the State Department relied upon to form the basis of this designation against Berisha and his family. Additionally, I request a detailed explanation of the process the State Department followed to determine this case.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lee Zeldin".

Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress

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