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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS) National Condemns the Censure of Congresswoman Tlaib

Washington, D.C. — Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS) National condemns the censure of Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib based on the grounds of her statements relating to the ongoing Israel-Gaza war. The censure of Congresswoman Tlaib sends a concerning message to Palestinians, Arabs, Muslims, and other minority communities that if they dare to speak out in support of the Palestinian people, they may be publicly humiliated and reprimanded. The censure is another reminder that our current leadership has a tumultuous relationship with the constitutional protections of freedom of religion and freedom of speech.

It is reprehensible that the U.S. House of Representatives united across party lines and voted to censure Rep. Tlaib yesterday. This action transcends the partisanship that is currently plaguing our nation, for it singles out the sole Palestinian Muslim woman in the 118th U.S. Congress at a time when hate crimes against Muslims and Islamophobia are on the rise in the United States.

The rise of Islamophobia is deeply concerning for Muslims globally, especially Palestinian Muslims. They have been targeted, harassed, and silenced from university campuses, social media platforms, and now at the highest level of Congress. This censure also constitutes an attack on free speech and has established a shameful precedent of punishing members who stand up for basic human dignity. It is time that all branches and levels of our government cease to alienate Muslim Americans and other minority groups in public service simply for their identities and beliefs.

MAPS National calls on the 118th U.S. Congress to cease using religion to further divide our nation and for the White House to swiftly denounce this censure.

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Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS) is a national, non-partisan, non-profit network of professionals and organizations that aims to create an enabling ecosystem for Muslim American public servants and the public institutions they serve.

For more information, visit: mapsnational.org

For press inquiries, contact: MAPS Communications Director Mayeen Mohammedi, at communications@mapsnational.org