

CLAY HIGGINS
3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

MEMBER, HOUSE FREEDOM CAUCUS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
CHAIRMAN, BORDER SECURITY AND ENFORCEMENT
TRANSPORTATION AND MARITIME SECURITY
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND
THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE
NATIONAL SECURITY, THE
BORDER, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES

February 12, 2025

His Excellency Dr. Abdul Latif Rashid
President of the Republic of Iraq
Office of the President
Baghdad, Republic of Iraq

President Rashid,

I greatly appreciate Iraq's longstanding partnership with the United States to purchase high-quality, nutritious rice for your country. Since 2021, the signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Al Awees has allowed for annual purchases of 200,000 metric tons of U.S.-produced rice, ensuring reliable deliveries to the Iraqi people.

My district in South Louisiana is a major producer, miller, and exporter of rice. During tours of the Port of Lake Charles and surrounding rice farms in Louisiana, I have witnessed firsthand the production and shipping of rice bound for Iraq and the impact this partnership has on the United States. I appreciate your nation's commitment to the MOU. I respectfully request that you continue to fulfill the remaining 70,000 metric tons of the agreed-upon 200,000 metric tons for the 2024-2025 MOU, ensuring both nations reap the benefits of this vital trade relationship.

I thank you for your dedication to this partnership, and I look forward to ensuring our nations can fulfill the remaining shipments of U.S. rice to Iraq. I stand ready to assist as appropriate and look forward to strengthening the trade relations between our nations in the coming years.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clay Higgins".

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress