

The American Ethiopian community protests outside Congressman Malinowski's office

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New Jersey News

Somerville, New Jersey (March 11, 2022) – American Ethiopian residents of New Jersey protest outside Congress [Tom Malinowski](#) Office on Thursday (March 10). coordinated by [AEPAC](#) with its New Jersey and New York state campaign election committees and AEPAC partner New York/New Jersey Tristate Hope 4 Ethiopia, protesters called for Congress to withdraw [the law he sponsors](#) That would damage the longstanding US-Ethiopia relationship, ravage Ethiopia's economy, provide aid to a recognized terrorist group and endanger the lives of millions of people in East Africa.

Alongside the protest, an airplane banner was flown over Congressman Malinowski's district to raise awareness of the bill's harmful impact and how it provides support to the TPLF.

The American Ethiopian community is considering mobilizing against the Democratic congressman as he battles a mid-term wafer-thin majority in New Jersey's 7th District.

On November 4, 2020, TPLF forces attacked a government military base in the northern Ethiopian region of Tigre, in what became known as the Tigre conflict. Over the past year, the TPLF has continued its violent military campaign in the neighboring Afar and Amhara regions, which has claimed the lives of millions of Ethiopians.

The fourteen-month conflict begins to subside after a counter-offensive by government forces, which repulsed the TPLF's march on Addis Ababa and their capture of Afar and Amhara.

Following the defeat of the TPLF and withdrawal from Tigre, the Ethiopian government has taken significant steps towards peace, including stopping armed operations along the

Tigre borders, offering amnesty to many TPLF leaders, and securing lasting peace for the country. Including creating a national dialogue to help.

Bill introduced by Congressman Malinowski, [HR6600 Ethiopia Stabilization, Peace and Democracy Act](#), The imposition of sweeping sanctions against Ethiopia, including barring the country from significant aid and investment from the IMF, the World Bank and the US, has been met with anger from the Ethiopian diaspora.

Since its inception, the congressman has faced heavy opposition from the Ethiopian American community in his district and across the country.

The object of the protest was to highlight that progress and to challenge the necessity of this bill. In addition, Ethiopian community leaders want to raise awareness of the impact of Malinowski's bill on the country's poorest people.

AEPAC President Mesfin Tegenu said:

"The bill is nothing short of an attack on Ethiopia and its people, which at the same time undermines more than 100 years of US-Ethiopia relations. As Ethiopia begins its journey to peace after more than a year of conflict, Representative Malinowski seeks to cripple Ethiopia's economy and fuel tensions. Many of the Actions of Ethiopia's Bill Requests Amnesty for Prisoners Formation of a national dialogue is already in progress. Our voice will be heard by the one million strong Ethiopian American community. We will do everything possible to oppose this bill and we call on Ethiopian friends to support our campaign.

More information about our work can be found here: <https://aepact.org/>

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