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Statement by Governor Mikie Sherrill on Middle East Evacuations

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"I served in the U.S. Navy for nearly 10 years during the Global War on Terror and as a member of the House Armed Services Committee in Congress. I know how important it is to go into any military action prepared and with a plan. But instead of taking decisive steps to protect American citizens abroad, this administration was slow to provide proactive notifications or adjust travel warnings until many were already in a dangerous situation. This lack of clear, early communication has left many families stranded, frustrated, and potentially in danger."

"In response, we are in contact with New Jerseyans in the Middle East who are stranded due to the suspension of commercial flights. My administration is also in active communication with the White House and State Department on behalf of our residents and is coordinating closely with our federal delegation to demand immediate travel assistance to bring New Jerseyans home. We will continue to share available resources on social media and direct families to our federal partners to facilitate the safe return of our neighbors."

"New Jersey residents in the Middle East should enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at step.state.gov to receive important updates directly from the U.S. Department of State with the latest security information and guidance. For emergency assistance, call 1-202-501-4444."



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