Statement of Dr. Nick Oberheiden
Nominee to be U.S. Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
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Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Shaheen, distinguished Members of the Committee- - I am grateful to President Trump and Secretary Rubio for the confidence they placed in me to serve as U.S. Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Growing up in a small coal town abroad, I never envisioned that I would one day appear before the United States Senate, as a nominee, no less, to ask for the privilege of representing the American people abroad. Stories like mine happen first and foremost in America, and I am proud to be part of the American family.

The law brought me here, to the country that has been my home for the last 22 years. I earned law degrees in Europe and the United States, assisted the UN war tribunal in The Hague, and completed a doctorate in international and comparative law. I have since taught and practiced law on five continents, including in the MENA region.

My journey would be incomplete without my wife Kelly and my daughters Logan, Evelyn, and Capri, who enrich my life in so many ways. All of us are excited about the prospect before us.

Having visited more than 50 countries, I can resolutely say that Egypt is a nation of historical significance and modern ambition. From Pharaoh Narmer—the great unifier of the first dynasty—to pioneering writing and engineering the pyramids some 4,600 years ago, Egypt has inspired the world as a beacon of civilization, ingenuity, and resilience.

With over 100 million citizens today, Egypt is not just the most populous member of the Arab League but also a key architect and visionary of the African Union.

To the United States, Egypt is a vital ally, and a friend. The world saw the strength of our alliance when President Trump and President el-Sisi achieved the historic 2025 ceasefire and hostage release agreement.

Egypt faithfully upholds the Camp David Accords and the landmark Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty of 1979— and has since established itself as a reliable mediator in a complex environment. Egypt deserves recognition for absorbing the shock of conflicts. It shelters refugees from the war in Sudan. It guards borders with a

fractured Libya and a wounded Gaza. It fights the Muslim Brotherhood at home and ISIS in the Sinai.

If confirmed, I will continue implementing the President's Comprehensive Peace Plan for Gaza and work with Egypt to advance the Administration's regional priorities, including reunifying Libya, stopping the war in Sudan, and countering Iran's malign influence. President Trump also understands the deep significance of the Nile River to Egypt and its people, and if confirmed, I look forward to working with the Egyptian government on this critical challenge.

Egypt is also our largest export market in Africa. We enjoy a trade surplus with Egypt, and over 2,100 U.S. companies are active in sectors ranging from oil and gas to advanced technology. If confirmed, I will work to ensure that our bilateral relationship increases American jobs and U.S. exports and make sure U.S. companies have every opportunity to compete and succeed.

In closing, I am under no illusion about the difficulty of this assignment. Yet if the Senate grants me the privilege of serving, I am determined to represent, protect, and promote the interests of the American people patriotically but respectfully, and zealously but diplomatically.

I pledge that, if confirmed, I will honor this Committee's vital constitutional role and will remain accessible and accountable to you.

Senators, thank you for your consideration. I welcome your questions.