United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203  
September 16, 2019

Sireli Barekamner:

Please accept my warmest greetings as you gather for the Armenian Assembly of America’s Advocacy Conference and Gala. I am grateful for the opportunity to express my admiration for the outstanding work of the Armenian Assembly of America and tonight’s honoree on this wonderful occasion.

First, I would like to applaud the Armenian Assembly of America for their tireless efforts and advocacy in striving to deepen the relations between the United States and the Republic of Armenia. Since 1972, the Armenian Assembly of America has been a cornerstone for sustaining public awareness of Armenian issues. It is my belief that some of Armenia’s impressive improvements, including the development of democratic institutions and adaptation of a free-market economy, can be attributed to the remarkable advocacy work from organizations such as the Armenian Assembly of America.

Additionally, I would like to spotlight this year’s honoree: Co-Chair of the Congressional Armenian Caucus and recipient of the Deukmejian Award for Public Service, Congresswoman Jackie Speier. I am proud to acknowledge Congresswoman Speier for her dedicated and passionate work in the Armenian community and for her commitment to strengthening United States and Armenia relations.

Since I entered public service, I have been a staunch supporter of Armenian issues. Every year in April, I stand with my Armenian friends to commemorate the Armenian genocide and urge for its proper recognition. I proudly represent countless New York Armenian-Americans in the United States Senate and salute their contributions not only to our great state but also to the United States of America.

Therefore, I am humbled and honored to join in spirit with everyone gathered here today to recognize the actions of the Armenian Assembly of America, here in the United States and in the Republic of Armenia. Thank you for your commitment and dedication in promoting democracy and representing the interests of Armenian-Americans. It is my hope that the Armenian Assembly of America will continue these efforts for many years to come. Best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator