(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) made the following statement on the occasion of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, which begins on sundown this Sunday, September 16th. Rosh Hashanah marks the year 5773 in the Jewish calendar.

"I send my warmest greetings to my friends for a happy and sweet New Year," said Hastings. "This is a time for personal reflection, celebrating with family, friends, and loved ones, and looking forward to new opportunities.

"As we work to examine and improve our own selves, and to practice and seek forgiveness, let us also keep in mind those amongst us who are struggling through difficult times: here at home, in Israel, and around the world. Let this coming year bring about opportunities to improve not only ourselves but the world around us.

"I am very pleased to represent such a caring, warm, and active Jewish community in and around my district in South Florida. I wish good health, happiness, peace, and prosperity to all my friends. L'Shana Tova."

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings serves as Senior Member of the House Rules Committee, Ranking Democratic Member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, and Democratic Chairman of the Florida Delegation

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