

465 N Mackubin St.
St. Paul, MN 55103
E-mail: myosfna@gmail.com



Oromo Sports Federation in North America

JUL 5th 2020

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
The United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Cantwell:

On behalf of the Oromo Sports Federation in North America (OSFNA), a non-profit sports organization based in the United States, we urge you to condemn the arrest of Redwan Aman and Yusuf Beshir without cause in Ethiopia. Both Redwan and Yusuf are U.S. citizens who are residents of Seattle, Washington. According to their families, both individuals traveled to Ethiopia on June 26, 2020, and they were abducted by Ethiopian security forces upon their arrival in the capital of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.

These two young leaders are well known in their community as mentors, coaches, and organizers. In particular, Redwan established a soccer club in Tacoma, Washington to create a place where kids from all socioeconomic backgrounds could join and have fun playing soccer. Furthermore, Redwan served as a Head Coach for Madda Walaabu, a community-based team, and as an Athletic Director for OSFNA.

The current situation in Ethiopia is very worrisome due to the assassination of an artist, Hacaaluu Hundessa. The daily torture, imprisonment, and killing of Oromos by Ethiopian security forces have exacerbated the political and social instability in Ethiopia. In addition, Redwan, Yusuf and thousands of Oromo prisoners are in danger as the prison conditions in Ethiopia are overly crowded and this puts them at a higher risk for sickness and even death from COVID-19.

The United States is a great country because of its diversity and the Oromos have made enormous contributions to this nation. The Oromo community is already mourning the death of our beloved artist and we now ask you to stand with us and help us free our two young leaders. The Ethiopian government has shut down all communications in the country, this leaves us entirely helpless and fearful of a dreaded outcome. We demand that Redwan, Yusuf and thousands of Oromo prisoners be released as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Makfira Hussein

President OSFNA

465 N Mackubin St.
St. Paul, MN 55103
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The United States Senate
Washington DC 20510

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