

INTERIM RESOLUTION 2011-010

1
2
3 URGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO STAND
4 BESIDE ISRAEL IN THE FACE OF INCREASED ATTACKS UPON ISRAEL AS A
5 SOVEREIGN NATION, TO HONOR OUR NATION'S LONG-STANDING
6 RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL AS AN ALLY, AND TO SUPPORT THE ARKANSAS
7 JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE NATION OF ISRAEL.
8

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE 88TH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
11

12 WHEREAS, Israel is one of our country's strongest allies and shares
13 common democratic values and national interests with the United States; and
14

15 WHEREAS, Israel is a small country in a strategically vital and
16 increasingly inhospitable region of the world; and
17

18 WHEREAS, Israel has been repeatedly targeted by unprovoked rocket
19 attacks and acts of terrorism; and
20

21 WHEREAS, more than one thousand one hundred fifty (1,150) rockets
22 have been fired upon the nation of Israel since the beginning of 2012; and
23

24 WHEREAS, more than four thousand (4,000) rockets and mortar shells
25 have been fired at Israel from the Gaza Strip by Hamas and other terrorist
26 organizations since Israeli forces were withdrawn in 2005; and
27

28 WHEREAS, the rocket fire has been targeted primarily and intentionally
29 at civilian communities in Israel, damaging homes, buildings, roads, power
30 lines, and other infrastructure; and
31

32 WHEREAS, the attacks have forced Israel to suffer dozens of
33 casualties, hundreds of shock victims, thousands of traumatized children, and
34 the severe disruption of daily life; and
35

1 WHEREAS, the unprovoked rocket attacks and acts of terrorism represent
2 the greatest obstacles to Israel's ongoing attempts to achieve a lasting
3 peace with the Palestinians; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the United States and Israel maintain a special relationship
6 based on shared cultural and political values and common interests; and
7

8 WHEREAS, since September 11, 2001, the United States has benefited in
9 the war against terrorism from Israel's experience, expertise, innovations,
10 and cooperation, saving American lives and bolstering America's defense; and
11

12 WHEREAS, the United States and Israel share a core strategic belief
13 that democratic reform in the Middle East can bring peace and change to the
14 political environment that breeds terrorists and funds terrorism; and
15

16 WHEREAS, Israel is an extremely capable and willing ally of the United
17 States, as evidenced by Israel's support for the United States' positions in
18 international forums such as the United Nations,
19

20 NOW THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL
22 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
23

24 THAT the Legislative Council:

25 (1) Condemns, in the strongest possible terms, rocket attacks
26 and any form of terrorist act upon the nation of Israel and its civilian
27 population;

28 (2) Supports the sovereign right of Israel to defend its
29 territory and stop the rocket attacks on its citizens;

30 (3) Regards rocket attacks and the fostering of terrorism in the
31 Palestinian territories as direct hindrances to the peace process in the
32 region;

33 (4) Reaffirms the strong and unyielding friendship between the
34 governments and the people of Israel and the United States; and

1 (5) Urges the President and Congress to staunchly support
2 Israel, a friend and ally of the United States, against further rocket
3 attacks and any other form of terrorism.

4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution, a copy be
6 transmitted to the President of the United States of America and to each
7 member of the Arkansas delegation to the United States Congress.

8

9 Respectfully submitted,

10

11

12

13 Senator Jason Rapert

14 District 18

15

16 Respectfully submitted,

17

18

19

20 Representative Stephen Meeks

21 District 47

22

23 Respectfully submitted,

24

25

26

27 Representative Mary P. "Prissy" Hickerson

28 District 1

29

30 Respectfully submitted,

31

32

33

34 Representative Linda Collins-Smith

35 District 80

36

1 Respectfully submitted,

2

3

4

5 Senator Cecile Bledsoe

6 District 8

7

8

9

10

11 By: DLP/PAT

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36