

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution reaffirming support of Israel and concurring  
3 in United States Senate Concurrent Resolution 79 relating  
4 to the Palestinian Authority.

5  
6 WHEREAS, it is the sense of this assembled body, in keeping  
7 with its time-honored traditions, to periodically reaffirm its  
8 support of nations and peoples with whom the State of Florida  
9 and this nation have had long-standing close relationships, and

10 WHEREAS, as a result of recent Palestinian Authority  
11 elections, it is incumbent upon this assembled body to stand by  
12 and support, with the firmest declaration of friendship, the  
13 people and State of Israel, and

14 WHEREAS, the democratic systems of government and  
15 pioneering histories of the United States and Israel linked and  
16 established a mutual respect between our two nations from the  
17 beginning, even to the extent that President Harry S. Truman  
18 offered official United States recognition of Israel a mere 11  
19 minutes after it had declared its independence as a sovereign  
20 state, and

21 WHEREAS, the bond many Floridians have with Israelis is  
22 both strong and fervent; many Floridians have family and friends  
23 in Israel; and Florida and Israel have created many joint  
24 economic and social programs that have greatly benefited both,  
25 and

26 WHEREAS, since September 11, 2001, Americans, especially in  
27 Florida, have become sadly familiar with and gained a greater  
28 and deeper understanding of the specter of terrorism, and it is

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29 | this unfortunate understanding that has strengthened the union  
30 | of the hearts and souls of Israelis and Floridians against the  
31 | evil which threatens to destroy humane and compassionate  
32 | society, and

33 |       WHEREAS, Florida shares with Israel as well a deep belief  
34 | in democracy, freedom, and security within their borders, and it  
35 | is therefore with great dismay that this assembled body views  
36 | the admittance of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, to the  
37 | Palestinian Legislative Council without its being required to  
38 | renounce its terrorist acts or to acknowledge the State of  
39 | Israel's right to exist, and

40 |       WHEREAS, the fact that Hamas holds a majority of the seats  
41 | in this government magnifies the concern exponentially, and

42 |       WHEREAS, Hamas, recognized by the international community  
43 | as a terrorist organization, is responsible for more than 425  
44 | terrorist attacks since the beginning of the second intifada in  
45 | the fall of 2000 and the deaths of 377 people, including women  
46 | and children and approximately 27 Americans, since 1993, and

47 |       WHEREAS, the United States Senate and House of  
48 | Representatives have adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 79  
49 | expressing the sense of Congress that no United States  
50 | assistance should be provided directly to the Palestinian  
51 | Authority if any representative political party holding a  
52 | majority of parliamentary seats within the Palestinian Authority  
53 | maintains a position calling for the destruction of Israel, and

54 |       WHEREAS, the very existence of the State of Israel is a  
55 | triumph over the oppression and hatred which have challenged the  
56 | Jewish people throughout history, and the solidarity of the

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57 | people of the State of Florida with the State of Israel is clear  
58 | and unremitting, NOW, THEREFORE,

59 |

60 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
61 | Florida:

62 |

63 |       That the House of Representatives pauses in its  
64 | deliberations to express its concurrence in United States Senate  
65 | Concurrent Resolution 79, to reiterate its abhorrence of  
66 | terrorism, and to reaffirm its affinity with and support of the  
67 | people and State of Israel.

68 |

69 |       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
70 | presented to Yitzchak Ben-Gad, Consul General of Israel, as a  
tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.