

By Senators Deutch, Smith, Hill, Dockery, Haridopolos, Fasano, Gelber, Rich, and Sobel

30-00052B-09A

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## Senate Resolution

A resolution expressing solidarity with Israel in its defense against terrorism in the Gaza Strip.

WHEREAS, the State of Israel is the greatest ally of the United States in the Middle East, and

WHEREAS, the Hamas terror organization's charter calls for the destruction of the State of Israel, and

WHEREAS, Palestinian terrorists of the Islamic Jihad and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, sponsored and trained by Iran, have recently fired hundreds of rockets at civilian targets in southern Israel, ending a 6-month cease fire with Israel in declaration and in deed, and

WHEREAS, during the 6-month "state of calm," Israel allowed the entrance of some 17,000 truckloads of humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip, while Palestinian terrorists launched 538 rockets and mortars into Israel, and

WHEREAS, the latest terrorist attacks took place only days after the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 1850, which unanimously declared support for the peace process between the Palestinians and Israelis, and

WHEREAS, since these latest terrorist attacks and the beginning of its military operation on December 27, 2008, Israel has allowed the entrance of hundreds of truckloads of humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip in full coordination with donor Arab countries and international aid organizations, including the Red Cross, out of respect for human rights and lives and in an effort to minimize the hardship and suffering of the Palestinian population, and

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30 WHEREAS, Israel's military operations are an effort to  
31 defend its citizens as a moral duty against the unspeakable  
32 horrors of ongoing, indiscriminate terrorism and are aimed only  
33 at dismantling the terrorist infrastructure, and

34 WHEREAS, hundreds of innocent Israeli and Palestinian  
35 civilians have been tragically killed due to ongoing escalations  
36 of violence initiated by Palestinian terrorist organizations,  
37 NOW, THEREFORE,

38  
39 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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41 That the Senate:

42 (1) Stands in solidarity with Israel as it takes necessary  
43 steps to provide security to its people;

44 (2) Remains committed to Israel's right to self-defense and  
45 supports additional United States' assistance to help Israel  
46 defend herself;

47 (3) Condemns the end of the ceasefire by Hamas;

48 (4) Condemns the firing of rockets into civilian areas by  
49 the Iran-sponsored terrorist groups of Hamas and the Islamic  
50 Jihad;

51 (5) Urges all Arab states to declare their opposition to  
52 terrorism and attacks on civilians; and

53 (6) Urges all parties in the region to pursue lasting peace  
54 in the Middle East.