

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 686

Expressing support for efforts to enhance Israeli security and create the conditions for progress toward a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 2016

Mr. YARMUTH (for himself, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. LEE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing support for efforts to enhance Israeli security and create the conditions for progress toward a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Whereas the immediate and long-term security of the State of Israel are core components of the United States-Israel special relationship;

Whereas the State of Israel, its soldiers and civilians have faced a wave of stabbing and other terrorist attacks;

Whereas incitement against Israel and Israelis, including by Palestinian officials, has contributed to the rise of such attacks;

Whereas, Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Military Intelligence Chief Major General Herzi Halevi reportedly highlighted for Israeli ministers that a sense of despair and frustration among Palestinians has also contributed to the rise of the current wave of violence;

Whereas IDF Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Gadi Eisenkot recently noted that, “security cooperation between the IDF and the Palestinian Security forces is a shared interest of both parties”;

Whereas Lieutenant General Eisenkot also stated that taking steps to ensure that Palestinians are able to lead hopeful lives and provide for their families would benefit Israeli security;

Whereas the House of Representatives has repeatedly called for a negotiated two-state solution to ensure Israel’s survival as a Jewish and democratic state, living alongside a Palestinian state in peace and security;

Whereas the House of Representatives has also repeatedly expressed its opposition to the Palestinian Government’s strategy of seeking to penalize and sanction the State of Israel or its citizens before international tribunals such as the International Criminal Court;

Whereas Vice President of the United States Joseph R. Biden, Jr., stated on March 20, 2016, “Israel’s government’s steady and systematic process of expanding settlements, legalizing outposts, seizing land, is eroding in my view the prospect of a two-state solution”; and

Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry stated on December 5, 2015, that interim confidence-building measures, while constructive, “won’t ever take the place, however, of a real, credible political horizon for two states that meets

the legitimate aspirations of both peoples [which] could help begin to reduce tensions, build some trust, restore a measure of hope, open up new possibilities, and hopefully create some political space for people to be able to make bigger, more critical decisions’’: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) condemns in the strongest possible terms  
3       acts of terrorism against Israelis;

4           (2) mourns all loss of innocent life on both  
5       sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict;

6           (3) supports the Administration’s continuing ef-  
7       forts to ensure the long-term security of Israel  
8       through robust military and intelligence cooperation  
9       and assistance, and its commitment to strengthening  
10      that partnership;

11          (4) encourages the United States Government  
12      to take further steps to enhance Israel’s immediate  
13      security, including—

14           (A) reconvening the Trilateral Commission  
15      on Incitement to address and prevent violence-  
16      inspiring rhetoric, as unanimously articulated in  
17      H. Res. 293;

18           (B) maintaining robust United States as-  
19      sistance to train and help support the oper-  
20      ational costs of Palestinian security forces co-

1 operating with Israeli security forces to fight  
2 terrorism; and

3 (C) working with Israel on enhancing areas  
4 of assistance and cooperation that would facili-  
5 tate greater freedom of movement, economic  
6 growth, access to water and other elements of  
7 human security for Palestinians living in the  
8 West Bank; and

9 (5) encourages the United States Government  
10 to help create the conditions for progress toward a  
11 negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Pales-  
12 tinian conflict by—

13 (A) consistently and firmly opposing ef-  
14 forts by the Palestinians to seek penalties and  
15 sanctions against the State of Israel and  
16 Israelis before international tribunals such as  
17 the International Criminal Court;

18 (B) consistently and firmly articulating 49  
19 years of consistent, bipartisan United States  
20 opposition to settlement expansion; and

21 (C) helping provide a political horizon for  
22 ending the conflict by articulating a non-bind-  
23 ing vision of what a comprehensive final status  
24 agreement might entail that could help foster

1 and guide revived negotiations between the par-  
2 ties.

