

1 SJR138  
2 214267-1  
3 By Senators Orr, Melson, Gudger, Scofield, Holley and Waggoner  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 17-MAY-21

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS DEFENSE  
AGAINST TERRORISM IN THE GAZA STRIP.

WHEREAS, Hamas was founded with the stated goal of  
destroying the State of Israel; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has been designated by the United  
States as a Foreign Terrorist Organization; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has launched thousands of rockets and  
mortars against Israeli population centers, since Israel  
withdrew its civilian population and its military from Gaza in  
2005; and

WHEREAS, Palestinian terrorists of the Islamic Jihad  
and Hamas have launched over 1800 rocket and mortars against  
Israeli civilian areas in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Hamas has increased the range and payload  
of its rockets, reportedly with support from Iran and others,  
putting hundreds of thousands of Israelis in danger of rocket  
attacks from Gaza; and

1           WHEREAS, Hamas locates elements of its terrorist  
2 infrastructure in civilian population centers, thus using  
3 innocent civilians as human shields; and

4           WHEREAS, the democratic, Jewish State of Israel is a  
5 key ally and a strategic partner of the United States and  
6 friend and partner of the State of Alabama; and

7           WHEREAS, the State of Alabama plays an important  
8 role in the production of the Iron Dome missile defense system  
9 which has saved countless lives against rocket attacks by  
10 Hamas onto population centers in Israel; and

11           WHEREAS, Israel, a fellow democracy, has an inherent  
12 right to self-defense in the face of terrorist attacks; now  
13 therefore,

14           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the State of Alabama:

16           (1) Expresses vigorous support and unwavering  
17 commitment to the welfare, security, and survival of the State  
18 of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state with secure  
19 borders, and recognizes its right to act in self-defense to  
20 protect its citizens against Hamas's unceasing aggression.

21           (2) Reiterates that Hamas must end the rocket and  
22 mortar attacks against Israel, recognize Israel's right to  
23 exist, renounce violence, agree to abide by previous  
24 agreements between Israel and the Palestinians, and verifiably  
25 dismantle its terrorist infrastructure.

26           (3) Encourages the Administration to work actively  
27 to support a durable and sustainable cease-fire in Gaza, as

1 soon as possible, that prevents Hamas from retaining or  
2 rebuilding its terrorist infrastructure, including the  
3 capability to launch rockets and mortars against Israel, and  
4 thereby allowing for the long-term improvement of daily living  
5 conditions for the people of Gaza.

6 (4) Condemns Hamas for deliberately embedding its  
7 fighters, leaders, and weapons in private homes, schools,  
8 mosques, hospitals, and otherwise using Palestinian civilians  
9 as human shields, while simultaneously targeting Israeli  
10 civilians; and to lay blame both for the breaking of  
11 the calm and for subsequent civilian casualties in Gaza  
12 precisely where blame belongs, that is, on Hamas.