Testimony for HJ0002

Good evening, my name is Kathleen Uy and I am a resident of Columbia, MD. I am here to testify in support of HJ0002.

I am greatly concerned about the ongoing situation in Gaza and the broader implications it has on our values and principles, especially regarding human rights and freedom of expression.

I believe it is crucial for leadership in Maryland to take a stance on these issues. We must condemn the violations of international law, including the attack on Oct. 7th by Hamas and the the Israeli military response to bomb the 2.3 million Palestinian people living in Gaza.

This is not just about international affairs; it's about where we, as a state, stand when it comes to witnessing and responding to acts of violence and potential atrocities. I feel it is imperative to understand the use of our taxpayer dollars, particularly concerning their potential links to such situations. As of now over 29,000 Palestinians have been killed, 2/3 of which are women and children and more than tens of thousands wounded. When will we stand up to say enough is enough? We need an immediate and permanent cease-fire and allow humanitarian aid immediately to the Palestinian people. As I speak Palestinians are without clean water or food. As I speak children are slowly dying of starvation.

I ask that the Maryland delegation pass this resolution. Thank you.