

February 29, 2024

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TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HJ0002
Supporting a Long-Term Ceasefire in Israel and Palestine

Dear Committee Members,

I just learned of Monday's hearing on HJ0002, Supporting a Long-Term Ceasefire in Israel and Palestine. I write in far fewer words than I ordinarily would to share that I am a member of Maryland's Jewish community and I wholeheartedly support this resolution and urge you to issue a favorable support.

I am one of MANY Jewish people in Maryland who are appalled at the ongoing violence in Gaza and who know that Jewish safety and security in Maryland, Israel, and everywhere else, is not furthered by continuing this unjustified war on a civilian population. I want to share that yesterday I had the privilege of meeting with 20 Israeli college students to share my viewpoints on Israel/Palestine, October 7, and the war. It was a challenging, humbling, and meaningful experience. And after speaking with these young Israelis, I felt even more comfortable with my continued support for an immediate ceasefire.

It is essential that everyone with power, including the Maryland General Assembly, use that power to speak out and call for an end to the violence.

Please know that for each of us who were able to drop everything to quickly communicate our feelings with you, there are so many more who would have done the same had they had more time. Please also know that I would be there to testify in person on Monday, but unfortunately I had a work commitment that I could not reschedule at this late date.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.