

## HJ0002 – Supporting a Long-Term Ceasefire in Israel and Palestine Rules and Executive Nominations March 4, 2024 POSITION: FAVORABLE

<u>Peace Action Montgomery</u> urges the Maryland General Assembly to pass resolution HJ0002-Supporting a Long-Term Ceasefire in Israel and Palestine.

Peace Action Montgomery has nearly 1,500 members and is a chapter entity under national Peace Action, the largest grassroots organization dedicated to eliminating the threat of weapons of mass destruction and promoting U.S foreign policy that is based on peaceful support for human rights and democracy, and cooperation with the world community.

As illustrated in a <u>3-minute video</u> we developed, Gaza is one-fourth the size of Montgomery County with double the population. Since Oct 7th, more than 45,000 bombs and missiles have been dropped on Gaza - resulting in one child being killed every 10 minutes. More than 5% of all Palestinians in Gaza are dead, injured or missing. And virtually all are facing starvation.

Martin Griffiths, UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator notes that "*history is watching*." In Maryland we have been actively contributing to this catastrophe with our tax dollars.

By adopting this resolution, the Maryland General Assembly *sends a message on behalf of all Marylanders* that we are refusing to tell future generations that we remained silent. That we stood by and did nothing.

We urge the House Rules and Executive Nominations to issue a favorable report.

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