

The Honorable Chair
Delegate Anne Healey
Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
Maryland House of Delegates Room 230
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: FAVORABLE - SUPPORT of House Joint Resolution 0009
Condemning Violence and Violations of Law - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza,
and Sudan**

To the Chair Delegate Anne Healey, Vice Chair Delegate Marvin E. Holmes, Jr., and esteemed members of the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee,

My name is Zoë, I am a resident of Frederick, Maryland located in Maryland's 3rd Legislative District. I am writing to name my support to HJ9 the "Condemning Violence and Violations of Law - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza, and Sudan" resolution. This resolution is an important step towards aligning our country with international law and our own domestic law, decrying the violence that we are directly or indirectly supporting through our foreign policy. We must make a clear statement to our Federal elected officials that we, the State of Maryland, *do not* support the country's actions to allow the perpetration of humanitarian atrocities abroad.

For years, and historically speaking decades in many of these cases, we have seen in real-time, graphic detail the unrelenting violence suffered by the civilian populations of the mentioned countries. Enough is enough. Maryland must not be silent. This bill affirms that civilian life is not conditional, that the state of Maryland recognizes and rejects these mass atrocities confirming our commitment to human dignity, civilian protections, accountability for violations of international law and unhindered humanitarian access.

As a Jewish constituent whose family fled Europe, I look at the role the US has played globally in perpetuating these horrible atrocities and know that these seeds of violence will only grow and root themselves back here. Please be an advocate for peace by supporting this resolution and I implore you to continue to support legislation like this one for a more fair and just future.

For these reasons and many more, **I ask the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee to give HJ 0009 a favorable report.**

Thank you for your time,
Zoë Dell
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