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- Americans for Peace Now  
Baltimore Chapter
- American Israel Public Affairs Committee
- American Red Magen David for Israel
- American Zionist Movement
- Amit Women
- Association of Reform Zionists of America
- Baltimore Board of Rabbis
- Baltimore Hebrew Congregation
- Baltimore Jewish Green and Just Alliance
- Baltimore Men's ORT
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- Beth El Congregation
- Beth Israel Congregation
- Beth Shalom Congregation of  
Howard County
- Beth Tfiloh Congregation
- Bnai Brith, Chesapeake Bay Region
- Bnai Israel Congregation
- Bnai Jacob Shaarei Zion Congregation
- Bolton Street Synagogue
- Chevra Ahavas Chesed, Inc.
- Chevrei Tzedek Congregation
- Chizuk Amuno Congregation
- Congregation Beit Tikvah
- Congregation Tiferes Yisroel
- Federation of Jewish Women's  
Organizations of Maryland
- Hadassah
- Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom Congregation  
J Street
- Jewish Federation of Howard County
- Jewish Labor Committee
- Jewish War Veterans
- Jewish War Veterans, Ladies Auxiliary
- Jewish Women International
- Jews For Judaism
- Moses Montefiore Anshe Emenah  
Hebrew Congregation
- National Council of Jewish Women
- Ner Tamid Congregation
- Rabbinical Council of America
- Religious Zionists of America
- Shaarei Tfiloh Congregation
- Shomrei Emenah Congregation
- Suburban Orthodox Congregation
- Temple Beth Shalom
- Temple Isaiah
- Zionist Organization of America  
Baltimore District

**Written Testimony**  
**HJ009 Condemning Violence and Violations of Law - Democratic Republic**  
**of the Congo, Gaza, and Sudan**  
**House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee**  
**March 9, 2026**  
**OPPOSE**

**Background:** This resolution seeks to get Maryland involved in international conflicts and takes a purposefully falsified view of the Gaza conflict propagated by the terrorist organization Hamas. The State of Maryland should not be in the business of supporting resolutions that align with inaccurate terrorist reported data.

**Written Comments:** The Baltimore Jewish Council (BJC) represents The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore, all of its agencies, as well as the organized Jewish Community of Greater Baltimore. We are adamantly opposed to this ill-informed resolution, riddled with dangerous inaccuracies meant to divide communities instead of unite them. The BJC understands the idea of supporting peace and to prevent further loss of life and let us be clear: We abhor the loss of innocent life, whether Jewish or Arab, Israeli, or Palestinian. War is horrible. However, this resolution absolves Hamas, an organization recognized by our government as a terrorist organization, of responsibility, and attempts to strip Israel of the basic right to self-defense that every nation has and the very reason this war began.

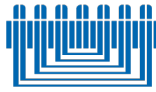
This resolution only mentions the actions of the Israeli government (with non-verified, inaccurate data) without mentioning Hamas or the horrific attacks on Israeli civilians that included rape, murder and more which promoted this war. It also falsely implies that Israel purposefully targets civilians, when Israel does more than any country to protect civilian lives, whereas Hamas purposely uses Palestinian civilians (and hostages) as human shields, and uses "hospitals" "schools" and "places of worship" as terrorist military posts.<sup>1</sup> There is also no mention of the hundreds of Israelis who were held as hostages in atrocious conditions for over two years by Hamas.

Let's not bring this to our State. Instead, the General Assembly should rise above the divisive discourse of supporting a one-sided and false narrative of the Gaza conflict and reaffirm the values we should hold near and dear.

For these reasons we urge an unfavorable report on HJ9.

*The Baltimore Jewish Council, a coalition of central Maryland Jewish organizations and congregations, advocates at all levels of government, on a variety of social welfare, economic and religious concerns, to protect and promote the interests of the Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, its agencies and the Greater Baltimore Jewish community.*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.idf.il/en/mini-sites/the-hamas-terrorist-organization/how-is-the-idf-minimizing-harm-to-civilians-in-gaza/#:~:text=As%20part%20of%20its%20efforts,impending%20airstrike%20in%20his%20vicinity.>



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*An agency of The Associated*

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