

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 498

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States support for the State of Israel as it defends itself against unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 10, 2014

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. CORKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. KIRK, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. HELLER, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. VITTER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. NELSON, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. THUNE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COATS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. LEE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COONS, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. WARNER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. FLAKE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. REED, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JULY 16, 2014

Reported by Mr. MENENDEZ, without amendment

JULY 17, 2014

Considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States

support for the State of Israel as it defends itself against unprovoked rocket attacks from the Hamas terrorist organization.

Whereas Hamas is a United States-designated terrorist organization whose charter calls for the destruction of the State of Israel;

Whereas Hamas continues to reject the core principles of the Middle East Quartet (the United Nations, the United States, the European Union, and Russia)—recognize Israel’s right to exist, renounce violence, and accept previous Israeli-Palestinian agreements;

Whereas Hamas has killed hundreds of Israelis and dozens of Americans in rocket attacks and suicide bombings;

Whereas, since Israel’s withdrawal from Gaza in 2005, Hamas and other terrorist groups have fired thousands of rockets at Israel;

Whereas Hamas has entered into a unity governing arrangement with Fatah and the Palestinian Authority;

Whereas the unity governing agreement implies Fatah’s and the Palestinian Authority’s support for Hamas’ belligerent actions against Israel, potentially contributing to a false perception of legitimacy for Hamas’ belligerent actions;

Whereas, since June 2014, Hamas has fired nearly 300 rockets at Israel;

Whereas Hamas’ weapons arsenal includes approximately 12,000 rockets that vary in range;

Whereas innocent Israeli civilians are indiscriminately targeted by Hamas rocket attacks; and

Whereas 5,000,000 Israelis are currently living under the threat of rocket attacks from Gaza: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) reaffirms its support for Israel’s right to de-
3 fend its citizens and ensure the survival of the State
4 of Israel;

5 (2) condemns the unprovoked rocket fire at
6 Israel;

7 (3) calls on Hamas to immediately cease all
8 rocket and other attacks against Israel; and

9 (4) calls on Palestinian Authority President
10 Mahmoud Abbas to dissolve the unity governing ar-
11 rangement with Hamas and condemn the attacks on
12 Israel.

○