

Dear DNC Members,

As leaders of Jewish Caucuses within the Democratic Party who are strong advocates for peace and security in the Middle East, we strongly support efforts to bring about a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas that immediately returns the hostages and alleviates the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. We also strongly support Israel's ongoing security needs and efforts to advance a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that guarantees self-determination, safety, and dignity for all people in the region.

This is why, at this week's DNC meeting, we urge you to **support Resolution 3**, *Resolution for Humanitarian Aid to Gaza and an End to the Israel-Hamas War*, and **oppose Resolution 18**, *Resolution on Gaza*.

On October 7, 2023, Hamas launched the deadliest single-day massacre of the Jewish people since the Holocaust, killing more than 1,200 people and taking more than 250 hostages through horrific acts of violence, including the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war. Today, approximately 50 hostages, more than half of whom are presumed dead, remain in dire conditions. Since Hamas's October 7 attack, the war in Gaza has resulted in the death of tens of thousands of people and mass displacement and destruction. A ceasefire to release the hostages and end the war in Gaza is long overdue and must be reached immediately.

**Resolution 3**, led by DNC Chair Ken Martin, reaffirms the Democratic Party's long-standing values of peace, dignity, and humanity. Reflecting a [letter](#) signed by forty-four Senate Democrats (all but three members of the Senate Democratic Caucus), this resolution recognizes our responsibility to advocate for expanded humanitarian assistance, a negotiated ceasefire that ends the violence in Gaza and releases all hostages held by Hamas, and a pathway toward a two-state solution where Palestinians achieve self-determination and Israel's future is secured as a Jewish and democratic state. It is clear there can be no lasting peace so long as Hamas is still in power in Gaza, and bilateral statehood negotiations are necessary for ensuring a two-state solution will result in sustainable peace.

The United States should urge both Israel and Hamas to reach a negotiated ceasefire – without emboldening Israel's adversaries. It is imperative that we voice our opposition to far-right extremism while maintaining support for Israel's right to self-defense. **Resolution 18**, which calls for a complete arms embargo on Israel, lacks context or nuance with regard to the myriad of complex issues surrounding the conflict and neglects to voice support for Israel's security or a release of the hostages.

As Democrats, we must take bold, forward-thinking steps to ensure a future of peace, security, and dignity for both Israelis and Palestinians. That means clearly articulating an approach to end

the war in Gaza, ensure the security of both Israelis and Palestinians, and move towards a political solution to the conflict that enables both peoples to live freely and securely. We urge you to stand with us in our **support for Resolution 3**, which embodies this approach, and **oppose Resolution 18**.

Signed,

Lisa Jewel

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*2nd Vice President, North Carolina Democratic Jewish Caucus*

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Linda Frank

*Board Member and Former Chair, Wisconsin Jewish Democratic Caucus*

Kris Sadur

*Board Member, Wisconsin Jewish Democratic Caucus*

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*Events Chair, Michigan Democratic Jewish Caucus*

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