

## **San Mateo County Democratic Party Resolution in Support of a Just and Lasting Peace Between the Israeli and the Palestinian Peoples**

**WHEREAS** Hamas' horrific rape, massacre, and capture of Israeli men, women and children on October 7, 2023, which violated the ceasefire in existence at that time, and the responding bombing of Gaza and cutoff of water, electricity, food and medicine and alleged sexual assault of Palestinian detainees by Israeli forces has meant staggering loss of life and suffering of Palestinian families, creating a humanitarian crisis; and

**WHEREAS** this is just the latest clash in a decades-long history of displacement and violence that continues to threaten the long-term stability and security of the region and beyond, with only failed attempts to resolve the issues of contention and establish peace, most notably the Oslo Accords of 1993 and 1995, in which Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) recognized their mutual right to exist and agreed to a peace process, but which terms have been thwarted by radical political maneuvers and violent conflict ever since; and

**WHEREAS** a two-state solution remains the only viable hope for lasting peace, which will require a negotiated ceasefire of the current war in the Gaza Strip, new leadership on both sides with a willingness and commitment, based on international law and pertinent UN resolutions, to negotiate the contentious issues of the two parties, among which are the removal of illegal settlements from the West Bank, achieving a just settlement of refugees, mutual security arrangements, and strong international support and aid from the United Nations, and especially from the United States and its allies;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee supports an expeditious, negotiated, and sustained ceasefire of hostilities with the provision of humanitarian aid in Gaza, the release of all hostages, and the initiation of negotiations for a two-state solution for the more than a century-long conflict between Israelis and Palestinians; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee calls upon President Joe Biden, with the assistance of Congress, to exert the considerable influence of the United States to ensure a path toward lasting peace: the creation of secure, independent and democratic Israeli and Palestinian states, living in peaceful coexistence.

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