

## A RESOLUTION OF THE JACKSON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Resolution No. 2024-1

### Permanent Ceasefire in Palestine

**Whereas**, On October 7, 2023 Hamas launched a [brutal terror attack](#) against Israel, taking over 200 hostages and resulting in the deaths of 1,139 Israelis (1); and

**Whereas**, the Hamas attack resulted in the Netanyahu's coalition government formally declaring war against Hamas and the Israeli Defense minister ordering a "[complete siege](#)" of Gaza (2) instituting a "collective punishment" of all Gazans for the attack by Hamas; and

**Whereas**, as of January 15, the [death toll](#) in Gaza stands at 24,447 Palestinians, including 9,600 children and 6,750 women since October 7 (1); and

**Whereas**, the Palestinian Ministry of Health in the occupied [West Bank](#) has confirmed that Israelis have killed at least 347 people, including more than 92 children (1); and

**Whereas**, since October 7 at least 8,730 Israelis were [injured](#) in the attack by Hamas and more than 60,834 Palestinians in Gaza have been [injured](#) (1); and

**Whereas**, more than half of [Gaza's homes](#) (359,000 residential units) have been destroyed or damaged and 374 educational facilities, 121 ambulances and 221 places of worship have been [damaged](#) (1); and

**Whereas**, 30 out of 35 [hospitals](#) are not functioning (1); and

**Whereas**, as of January 15, 82 [journalists and media workers](#) were confirmed dead, including 75 Palestinian, four Israeli, and three Lebanese with 16 journalists injured and three journalists reported missing (3); and

**Whereas**, on December 7, 2023 U.N. Secretary General António Guterres called for an [immediate ceasefire](#) (4); and

**Whereas**, on December 8, the United States was the only country to [veto](#) a United Nations Security Council resolution demanding an immediate humanitarian cease-fire in Gaza (4); and

**Whereas**, of the \$3.8 billion the U.S. annually spends on [military aid to Israel](#), the [state of Oregon](#) provides \$41,288,443 (5) or the amount of money that could provide 4,908 households with public housing for a year or 14,366 with free or low-cost healthcare (5); and

**Whereas**, the Biden administration [approved](#) (on December 9) 13,000 rounds of tank ammunition to the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and (on December 29) the sale of \$147.5 million in equipment, including fuses, charges, and primers for 155mm artillery shells (6); and

**Whereas**, a [ceasefire](#) will put a stop to unlawful attacks by all parties involved thus far and allow humanitarian aid agencies into the Gaza strip to alleviate widespread suffering and will allow for

the [negotiation](#) of release of the hostages in Gaza and for the [investigation](#) of the war crimes of both parties by independent international investigations (7); and

**Whereas**, the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide defines [genocide](#) as acts such as killings “committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group” (8); and

**Whereas**, on December 18 [Human Rights Watch](#) stated that the government of Israel is committing a war crime by using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare in the occupied Gaza Strip, deliberately blocking the delivery of water, food, and fuel, while willfully impeding humanitarian assistance.(9); and

**Whereas**, South Africa has convened the [International Court of Justice](#) to order Israel to immediately stop the war, alleging it has violated the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (8); and

**Whereas**, in a recent [New York Times/Siena College poll](#), half of all Democrats and three-fourths of [young voters 18-29](#) disapprove of the way President Biden is handling the conflict (10,11) and Biden’s previous [support among Arab Americans](#), especially in swing states like Michigan, has cratered since the war began; both putting his re-election at risk (12).

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE JACKSON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1: We call on Sen. Ron Wyden and Rep. Cliff Bentz to join Sen. Jeff Merkley in supporting a suspension of U.S. military aid to Israel until a permanent ceasefire is declared.

Section 2: We call on our state legislature to pass a resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire in Palestine.

Section 3: We call on the city councils in Jackson County to pass resolutions calling for a permanent ceasefire in Palestine.

**REFERENCES:**

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2. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/israeli-defense-minister-orders-complete-siege-on-gaza-after-hamas-surprise->
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5. <https://uscpr.org/activist-resource/us-military-funding-to-israel-map/>
6. <https://www.commondreams.org/news/u-s-aid-to-israel-2666833315>
7. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/petition/demand-a-ceasefire-by-all-parties-to-end-civilian-suffering/>
8. <https://apnews.com/article/un-court-south-africa-israel-gaza-genocide-71be2ce7f09bfee05a7cae26689ee262>
9. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/12/18/israel-starvation-used-weapon-war-gaza> 10.