Legislation Text

File #: 80848, **Version:** 1

Fiscal Note

Minimal City fiscal impact. No appropriation is required.

Title

Calling for a ceasefire in Gaza

Body

WHEREAS, all human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians, no matter their religion or ethnicity, is a violation of international humanitarian law; and,

WHEREAS, between October 7 and November 13, 2023, armed violence has claimed the lives of over 11,000 Palestinians, of which at least 4,000 are children, and over 1,400 Israelis, including children, and wounded thousands more; and,

WHEREAS, this conflict is perpetuating a dangerous and costly lack of access to basic human needs in Gaza, such as food, water, medical supplies, and more, which are indispensable for the survival of the civilian population; and,

WHEREAS, Gaza is one of the most densely populated areas in the world with approximately 2.2 million people, who are at ongoing risk until a ceasefire is achieved and humanitarian aid is allowed to reach all people in need; and,

WHEREAS, for the safety and security of all civilians and in order to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza, any ceasefire must be agreed to by both sides and must be guaranteed by the physical presence of international partners who have a vested interest in seeing peace and stability in the region; and,

WHEREAS, the federal government holds immense diplomatic power and a ceasefire should be the highest priority in order to prevent any more innocent civilian lives from being lost; and,

WHEREAS, at least 42 members of Congress have signed on to letters and statements calling for a ceasefire in Gaza; and,

WHEREAS, municipalities across the nation, including Cudahy and Richmond, California; Wilmington, Delaware; Carrboro, North Carolina; and Providence, Rhode Island; have passed resolutions calling for a ceasefire;

WHEREAS, Madison's long history of peace activism has largely created its liberal reputation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Madison Common Council calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and urgent political action to both de-escalate the crisis and to prioritize truth, reconciliation, restitution, and the building of a future for the Palestinian and Israeli people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Madison Common Council urges support for an immediate release of all hostages and cessation of hostilities toward civilians by all parties in this war.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Madison Common Council urges the U.S government to immediately facilitate the sending of humanitarian assistance including food, water, and medical supplies, into Gaza.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to President Biden, Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson, and Representative Mark Pocan.

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