

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 9, 2009

Contact: **Josh Block** [jblock@aipac.org](mailto:jblock@aipac.org)

## AIPAC Applauds Passage of House Resolution Expressing Support for the State of Israel

AIPAC applauds the United States House of Representatives for backing Israel's quest for peace and right to self-defense and its overwhelming expression of solidarity and support for the State of Israel with the passage of H. Res. 34. The resolution supports a durable and sustainable diplomatic outcome to the current crisis that will ensure an end to the smuggling of arms into Gaza and an end to Hamas terror attacks on Israel, in an effort to create an environment conducive to a sustainable and lasting peace between the Israeli and Palestinian people.

The resolution, introduced by a bipartisan coalition of House leaders led by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Republican Leader John Boehner (R-OH), conveys America's unequivocal and steadfast support for Israel's right to self-defense against relentless assaults by the Iranian-backed terrorist group Hamas, who along with Iran's other terrorist proxy Hizballah, have killed more Americans than any other terrorist group except Al Qaeda. The House resolution echoes Senate Resolution 10, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent on Thursday.

"Today, we reaffirm that Israel, like any nation, has a right to self-defense when under attack. The rocket and mortar attacks from Gaza, which were increasing in frequency and range, constituted an unacceptable security threat to which Israel had a responsibility to respond," Speaker Pelosi said from the floor of the House today.

"The United States has stood with our Israeli allies for more than six decades, and we stand strongly with them during the current conflict. Hamas' decision to break the ceasefire agreement last month in order to launch violent attacks against Israel is one that cannot be tolerated. Congress overwhelmingly supports Israel's right to defend itself and its continuation as a democratic Jewish state," Republican Leader Boehner said in a statement.

The U.S. Congress has once again demonstrated its unwavering support for Israel and her right to self-defense. While Israel is forced to defend its citizens from those who aim to destroy her, America has, as always, remained a voice of strength and reason.

AIPAC also applauds President Bush and the administration as well as the continued bipartisan support of the leadership of the House and Senate, President-elect Obama, and the numerous other American leaders who have defended Israel's right to a terror-free existence.

###

*Consistently ranked as the most influential foreign policy lobbying organization on Capitol Hill, AIPAC is an American membership organization that seeks to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Israel. For more than 50 years, AIPAC has been working with Congress to build a strong, vibrant relationship between the U.S. and Israel. With more than 100,000 members across the United States, AIPAC works throughout the country to improve and strengthen that relationship by supporting U.S.-Israel military, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation.*