



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **AIPAC Applauds Administration Support for Israeli Rocket Defense System**

**Obama Administration Pledges \$205M for Israeli Anti-Rocket System**

AIPAC applauds the Obama Administration's decision to provide \$205 million to support Israel's acquisition of the IRON DOME rocket defense system. These funds are in addition to Israel's annual security assistance.

This important step, which will reduce the threat from Hamas and Hezbollah rocket attacks, is a tribute to America's commitment to Israel's defense and underscores our fundamental security cooperation with Israel, an island of democracy surrounded by a sea of hostile terrorist and totalitarian threats. America stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the people of Israel in their quest for peace and the right to live lives free of terrorism.

Soon to be put into operation in Israel, the IRON DOME system will help protect Israeli civilians, living in cities like Sderot, who have been terrorized by over 8,000 indiscriminate rocket and mortar attacks on their homes, schools and communities.

In approving this funding, President Obama is bringing to fruition his promise to help ensure safety for the people of Sderot and other Israeli communities. When he visited Sderot before the 2008 presidential election, Mr. Obama said "I will work from the moment that I return to America, to tell the story of Sderot and to make sure that the good people who live here are enjoying a future of peace and security and hope." The President added that "If somebody was sending rockets into my house where my two daughters sleep at night, I'm going to do everything in my power to stop that. And I would expect Israelis to do the same thing."

American support will complement Israel's development and procurement investments to enable Israel to produce sufficient quantities of the system for an effective defense against terrorist short-range missiles, rockets, and mortars.

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