

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 16, 2010

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AIPAC APPLAUDS HOUSE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT TO ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

AIPAC applauds yesterday's passage of a House resolution supporting a negotiated settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, while discouraging efforts to circumvent that process. The resolution passed by voice vote.

AIPAC supports the House's call for a negotiated solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its strong opposition to efforts to seek recognition of a Palestinian state outside of an Israeli-Palestinian agreement.

As President Obama has said, "The only path to lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians is direct talks." Unfortunately, it has been three months since Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas has been willing to sit down, face-to-face with his Israeli counterpart. Israel has proven it is prepared to make significant sacrifices for a real peace with its neighbors. But such an accord can only be reached through sustained and direct talks.

We join the House in support of the Obama Administration's opposition to a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state and join it in calling on the Administration to persuade other nations to oppose such a declaration.

AIPAC commends the leadership of the sponsors of the resolution: House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Howard Berman (D-CA), Reps. Ted Poe (R-TX), Shelley Berkley (D-NV), Ranking Member Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Gary Ackerman (D-NY) and Dan Burton (R-IN).

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