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## **AIPAC Applauds President Obama's Request for Additional Missile Defense Funding**

### ***Missile Defense Helps Prevent a Broader Conflict***

AIPAC applauds Secretary Panetta's decision on behalf of the Obama administration to request additional funding for the Iron Dome rocket defense system and joint U.S.-Israeli missile defense ventures.

AIPAC also applauds those committees in Congress that have already started the process of fully funding these missile defense programs.

Iranian-backed terrorists on Israel's borders have amassed more than 60,000 missiles and rockets, putting the entire country within their range. This funding will enable the Jewish state to better protect its citizens, thus preventing a wider conflict.

Missile defense programs are a cornerstone of U.S.-Israel cooperative programs. The two allies work together to develop innovative technologies that advance the security of both nations.

This request follows President Obama's 2011 decision—supported by Congress—to provide \$205 million for the Iron Dome. It marks a concrete step toward fulfillment of the President's commitment that Israel must always have the ability to defend itself, by itself, against emerging threats from Iran and its terrorist proxies.

AIPAC urges Congress, which has already taken steps to approve additional funds for missile defense programs with Israel, to finalize the approval of these funds and strengthen the Jewish state's defense and deterrence capabilities.

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