

**SUSPEND THE RULES AND AGREE TO THE RESOLUTION, H.
RES. 575 WITH AMENDMENTS**

**(THE AMENDMENTS CONSIST OF A SUBSTITUTE TEXT AND AN
AMENDMENT TO THE TITLE)**

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 575

Providing that Hamas and other terrorist organizations should not participate in elections held by the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

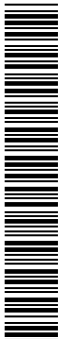
NOVEMBER 18, 2005

Mr. CANTOR (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, and Mr. WEXLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Providing that Hamas and other terrorist organizations should not participate in elections held by the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes.

Whereas the foundation for the Israeli-Palestinian peace process was Palestinian recognition of Israel's right to exist and a solemn obligation to end terrorism and violence;



Whereas the removal of all Israeli presence in Gaza signifies an end to Israeli responsibility there and a shift in security responsibility of Gaza to the Palestinian Authority;

Whereas Israel's evacuation of Gaza affords the Palestinian Authority, now the responsible governing authority in Gaza, the opportunity to demonstrate its ability to govern, to establish the rule of law, to end corruption, and thereby to demonstrate that it is a partner for peace;

Whereas Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas has repeatedly called for the establishment of "One Authority, One Law, and One Gun";

Whereas since the withdrawal of Israeli military forces, the Palestinian Authority has taken few steps to establish rule of law in Gaza;

Whereas Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade, and other terrorist organizations have vowed to continue terrorism against Israeli civilians, seek the destruction of the State of Israel, and employ violence and terror in fulfillment of that aim;

Whereas the inclusion of Hamas, or any other terrorist group on the State Department list of foreign terrorist organizations, into the Palestinian structure could be construed as an implicit endorsement of their anti-American and anti-Israeli terrorist ideology;

Whereas the first provision of the Road Map to Middle East Peace calls for the Palestinians to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure;

Whereas these terrorist organizations, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, operate virtually without interference from the Palestinian Authority;



Whereas Hamas has announced its intention to run in Palestinian legislative elections scheduled for January 2006;

Whereas Abbas has indicated his willingness to see Hamas participate in the elections without first calling for it to disband its militia or for it to renounce its goal of destroying the State of Israel;

Whereas the United States has clearly stated that armed militias attached to political parties are incompatible with democratic societies;

Whereas President Bush has stated that Hamas “seeks to end dissent in every form, to control every aspect of life. . .the terrorists are preparing a future of oppression and misery”;

Whereas the forces of freedom must continue to keep an untiring vigil against the enemies of rising democracies; and

Whereas the United States has a longstanding policy of not dealing or negotiating with terrorists: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) reaffirms its commitment to the safety and
3 security of the democratic State of Israel;

4 (2) asserts that terrorist organizations, such as
5 Hamas, should not be permitted to participate in
6 Palestinian elections until such organizations recognize
7 Israel’s right to exist as a Jewish state, cease
8 incitement, condemn terrorism, and permanently disarm
9 and dismantle their terrorist infrastructure;



1 (3) calls on the Palestinian Authority President
2 Abbas before the election to declare openly his inten-
3 tion to take action to dismantle the terrorist organi-
4 zations;

5 (4) asserts that the inclusion of Hamas, or any
6 other terrorist group on the Department of State's
7 list of foreign terrorist organizations, in the Pales-
8 tinian Authority's government will inevitably raise
9 serious questions for the United States about the
10 commitment of the Palestinian Authority and its
11 leadership to making peace with Israel and will po-
12 tentially undermine the ability of the United States
13 to have a constructive relationship with, or provide
14 further assistance to, the Palestinian Authority; and

15 (5) states its strong belief that, as underlined
16 in every recent Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement,
17 progress in the peace process requires sustained Pal-
18 estinian effort to dismantle the terrorist infrastruc-
19 ture, and that delay in confronting that principal ob-
20 ligation only emboldens the opponents of peace and
21 threatens its realization.

Amend the title so as to read: "Asserting that
Hamas and other terrorist organizations should not partici-
pate in elections held by the Palestinian Authority,
and for other purposes."

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