

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Aamina Alizai <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:42 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Aamina Alizai
aamina.alizai@gmail.com
10610 vista road
Columbia , Maryland 21044

Respass, Charity

From: Aamir Chowdhury <aamir084@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:27 AM
To: CouncilMail; Jung, Debra
Subject: Fwd: Please support CR22 (calling for immediate ceasefire in Gaza)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good Morning Councilwoman Jung,

I live in Columbia Maryland in District 4 and I would like you to support CR22 which calls for immediate ceasefire in Gaza because far too many innocent civilians have been murdered and the war is behind conducted with minimal or no disregard of human life/rights that are required to be followed by international standards. Please have the basic human empathy and vote yes to this bill. We are all being judged at this very important time and it's this issue requires immediate action.

Regards,

Aamir Chowdhury

Respass, Charity

From: Abdul Saboor Khan <abdulsaboorkhan19936@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:56 AM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: terri.hill@house.state.md.us; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel
Subject: Written Testimony for CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

I am writing to you as a Howard County resident and employee whom is concerned about the lack of empathy shown for human life.

I live in Ellicott City right on the border of Columbia. Proudly serving my community, proudly working for this county, and being a volunteer firefighter/EMT within the state, I deeply regard Howard County as my "home".

But as of late, it has become difficult to say that I feel welcomed in my own home.

The war all Gaza is an absolute atrocity, where there has been constant disregard for the innocent lives of many men, women, and especially children leading to several thousands of murders of the Palestinian people.

And this has lead to a growing culture here in our own county and country where it is becoming acceptable to side with moral corruption and hatred of a group of people.

Muslims are facing an enormous amount of hate, Islamophobia has significantly increased in the County and within our schools, and I myself have felt alienated while working for the county.

Right after October 7th, our beloved County Executive, Dr. Calvin Ball, strongly condemned the acts of Hamas. And no Muslim advocates for violence or hatred of others. But there was not a strong condemnation of the Israeli government (which clearly operates against its own population of Jews and against the teachings of Judaism) and its relentless slaughter of innocent civilians in Palestine. This left a void that other residents within the county filled with hatred and segregation towards me. All this despite me continuing to support and serve the country community wholeheartedly within my role here in the County.

And yes, County Administration later came back to state that Islamophobia, Antisemitism (which the root word means hatred against Jews AND Arabs), and xenophobia are not tolerated. And yes, County Administration loosely tried to extend their hand at meeting with leaders of the Muslim community (my community), which served more lip service than actually fielding concern. But I have not seen any concrete action on behalf of the County to assure me that I am welcome in my own home (here in the county). And this has set the tone that harassment and even killing of Muslims is acceptable.

As my child, whom is currently within a pre-K program in Howard County Public Schools, grows older, I do not know if I can support his continuation of attending a public system that disenfranchises him and doesn't guarantee his safety based on his religious beliefs.

By supporting and adopting resolution CR22-2024, the County is sending a message to it's residents and employees, to the state, and to our dear country of the United States of America (along with the entire world) that hate will not be tolerated for anyone, that it is unacceptable and illegal to kill and take the lives of the innocent (which as of this date of writing has been mainly of women and children in Gaza by the Israeli government [which, again, does NOT represent the Jewish people]), and that it is unacceptable and illegal to take away the basic humans rights for individuals (whom in Gaza have lost the access to clean water and food because of the Israeli government).

This is why I call Howard County home and hopefully wish to continue to do so. Because the County has stood on the principles outlined above - that religious freedom and respect for all is required to live in the county, that there should be no hatred within the county, that it is NOT acceptable to devalue one life over another.

Yes, adopting a ceasefire is highly symbolic as policies at the federal level and global level have more significant impact.

However, standing, even symbolically and for humanitarian causes, on the morally correct side signifies and emphasizes the County's stance that every human deserves to live, grow, and thrive in a safe, respectable, and humane environment.

And never can stating that a ceasefire is necessary in Gaza state that one is antisemitic - based on the very definition, one is stating that the lives of innocent men, women, and children, particularly those currently in Gaza - of Arabs (which again are ALSO Semitic people) - irregardless of ethnicity, religion, heritage, lineage, or socioeconomic background are sacred and to be protected.

I ask the Council, do you stand with the principles of Howard County? And can you stand on the side of humanity?

If so, no matter what a person says, standing on the morally correct position is vital regardless of how difficult the process may be.

If you cannot support such a resolution, then no matter what your excuse, you have made it clear that Howard County does not value the lives of Muslims.

I thank you dearly for giving me this opportunity to express my concerns. And I will continue to serve happily in my role in Howard County government, where I help ALL to live, grow, and thrive with dignity and civility.

Sincerely,

A concerned citizen, neighbor, and human

AbdulSaboor Khan

Respass, Charity

From: Ahmed <abdurahman12er14@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:00 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Hearing and testimony

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

We demand that you reinstate the public hearing and testimony. We will not accept any attempts to shove this under the carpet.

History will be ruthless and merciless to those who tried to expedite this bill and get it forgotten about or worse, stood idly by. This won't be overlooked, or forgotten nor will there be any forgiveness.

End the siege and starvation in Gaza now!

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Aisha Alizai <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:18 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Aisha Alizai

Aisha Alizai
aisha.alizai@gmail.com
10619 Hunting Lane
Columbia, Maryland 21044

Respass, Charity

From: Doris y Allan Geisler <dageisler@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 6:12 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To all who this may concern.

We are asking that this Resolution (CR22-2024) regarding a cease fire in Gaza to either not be passed as written or preferably not to be presented at all, due to it's unbalanced and inappropriate nature.

Our personal feelings are that it is totally inappropriate for our council members to put forth a bill that is not representative of all of our citizens, here in Howard County. Many of us are disappointed that not one word alludes to the unprovoked brutal attacks in October 7th in Israel, and the deaths, burn, dismembered, rape, and trauma of those innocent Israelis. Nor was there any mention of demanding release of those kidnapped and still being held hostage by the brutal Hamas terrorists, more than 120 Israelis and 9 Americans between them.

We are asking for a total withdrawal of this resolution as it clearly has no place in local agendas of the Howard County Council.

Sincerely,

Allan and Doris Geisler

Sent from my iPhone

Respass, Charity

From: Allison Mainen <allisonmainen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:19 PM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilMail
Subject: the resolution CR22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Allie Mainen, I live in Howard County. I oppose CR22 and ask that the county council vote it down.

In the words of Daniel Pearl, "My father is Jewish, my mother is Jewish, I am Jewish." Do not figuratively behead me and my culture in our community.

Thank you,

Allie

Respass, Charity

From: Allison Fishbein <allisonfishbein@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:31 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today to ask that you **vote no** for Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024 that demands an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calls upon the Biden administration to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urges certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

I support a resolution that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire.

Please vote no to Res CR22-2024!

Sincerely,

Allison Fishbein & Brenda Fishbein

Sent from my iPhone

Respass, Charity

From: Amal Sinnokrot <amal.sinnokrot@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:25 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: [Possible Scam Fraud][SUSPECTED SPAM] Written Testimony for CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

WARNING: Your email security system has determined the message below may be a potential threat.

If you do not know the sender or cannot verify the integrity of the message, please do not respond or click on links in the message. Depending on the security settings, clickable URLs may have been modified to provide additional security.

Hello,

My name is Amal Sinnokrot. I am a Palestinian American and have lived in Howard county since 2018. I was born and raised in Montgomery County, Md. I always felt like I didn't matter in their public school system. My faith and background was never mentioned as we learned about Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza. I remember when Ramadan actually fell in December with the other major holidays but it was just brushed away. I bring this up because I would never move back there and have my children go through their school system. I faced so much discrimination living there. I have been called a terrorist countless time and even had someone try to run me over in front of my house.

Since moving to Howard County, I haven't faced any discrimination. I feel very welcome here and part of the community. I feel comfortable raising children here. I remember seeing all the "Choose Civility" bumper stickers when I first moved. That really stood out to me.

Despite feeling comfortable here, I am at a loss as to why Howard County hasn't passed a resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. The deaths of over 30,000 people (70% being women and children) is affecting so many of your residents. How can this be ignored? Especially when you passed a unanimous resolution in solidarity with the government of Ukraine.

Israel is a colonizer state, they have ignored so many international laws. This isn't the first time Gaza has been bombed, although the worst. The West Bank is broken into pieces by settler settlements. Ukraine was the victim in the conflict with Russia and deserved to have a resolution and so do the Palestinians. If you took a moment to do your own research instead of listening to the propaganda from the Israeli government, you would see this. If you won't listen to Palestinians firsthand accounts such as eye on Palestine, please look up Jesse Mechanic and Daniel Mate.

I have gone through so many traumatic moments when visiting Palestine. I remember being stripped searched as a child, guns pointed at me. I remember being woken up at 3 am by tanks as they announced they will be kicking everyone out of their homes to ransack everything. I have cousins and uncles who have been put in jail without a trial for no reason. My own grandmother was locked in her house and threatened to be blown up. These are just a few examples of the constant humiliation Palestinians go through on a daily basis.

I am a single issue voter when it comes to Palestine and I will vote for only those who support a resolution. Almost 50 cities in the US have called for a ceasefire including huge cities like Chicago. I don't understand why a place that has bumper stickers that say "choose civility" wouldn't be one of those that call for a ceasefire.

Please support the resolution for a ceasefire, this is affecting so many Howard county residents including your students. Please choose civility.

•

Amal Sinnokrot

Respass, Charity

From: Amanda Heir <amanda.heir@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:05 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Michael Heir
Subject: Opposition to CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council Members,

As residents of Howard County, we are asking you to please vote against CR22-2024.

We agree that the loss of life and continued human suffering in the region is devastating; however:

1. The wording in this resolution is one sided and divisive. It does not even acknowledge the innocent hostages (including American citizens) that are still being held by Hamas, or demand their release. This omission is offensive to many Howard county residents, particularly our Jewish community. If the true intention of this resolution is peace, then the language should not be offensive.
2. Foreign affairs are outside of Council's mandate, and therefore this resolution is inappropriate and a waste of the Council's precious time and resources. Spending any more time on this will create further division within our community and will prevent the Council from addressing important Howard County issues.

Thank you,

Amanda and Michael Heir
6308 Victorious Song Lane
Clarksville, MD
21029

District 4

Respass, Charity

From: Ann Silver <annsilvereps@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:05 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: VOTE AGAINST CR22-24

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council,

Good morning. Please vote against CR22-2024. Israel has a right to defend itself after suffering a terrorist attack and must eliminate Hamas from Gaza. This resolution is anti-semitic in that it does not specifically condemn Hamas for killing, attacking, kidnapping, assaulting and raping innocent civilians. Hamas is a terrorist organization that operates and hides among a civilian population, using the people of Gaza as human shields. The resulting bloodshed in Gaza is on the hands of these terrorists and the County Council should have the decency to state this if they are going to use their time drafting and passing these types of resolutions.

Sincerely,
Ann Silver
Columbia, MD

Respass, Charity

From: Williams, China
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:41 AM
To: Anderson, Isaiah
Subject: FW: Pro Ceasefire resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Anna Rubin <airubin@umbc.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:52 AM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Pro Ceasefire resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Member Jung, I am a Jewish American active in Howard County and state Jewish organizations and I urge you to vote for the ceasefire resolution stopping Israeli attacks on Gaza. Jewish ethics demand we view each person as an image of God. This war is destroying not only Palestinian lives but homes, government and cultural institutions. And starvation is a real threat to hundreds of thousands.

Sincerely,
Dr. Anna Rubin

annarubinmusic.com
fieldprojectsgallery.com (installation with Yen Ha)
soundcloud.com/annarubinmusic

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Anna Rubin <airubin@umbc.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:55 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Thank for your support

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Member Walsh,
Thank you for putting forth a resolution demanding an end to the Israeli war on Gaza. I am a Jewish American and citizen in Howard County and your leadership is so welcome.

Sincerely,
Dr. Anna Rubin

Respass, Charity

From: Aseia Chaudhry <aseiach@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:28 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Testimony to support CR22-2024 ceasefire Gaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello

My name is Aseia Chaudhry. I work as a contracting officer in federal government. I am Howard county constituent. My address is 9556 Chaton Rd, Laurel, MD 20723.

I am emailing about the resolution CR22-2024, permanent ceasefire in Gaza. This is the most important current issue that is impacting our community in Howard county Maryland. Many of our community members are being killed with Israel's investigate bombing and starvation which is being used as a weapon against innocent Palestinians. This form of collective punishment is a war crime. Over 12,000 children have been killed since Oct 7,2023. I would like you all to support ceasefire to save lives. Just like we passed a resolution to support Ukraine, please pass this resolution as well. I am hopeful that you all will stand against this genocide and crimes against humanity. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Respass, Charity

From: Williams, China
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:30 AM
To: Anderson, Isaiah
Subject: FW: A plea from a district resident to modify CR22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Bess Caplan <bess.caplan@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:46 AM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: A plea from a district resident to modify CR22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Deb,

I previously wrote to all council members about my concerns with CR22-2024 but I wanted to write to you separately as my district council member. The current language of CR22 does not call for the release of hostages and does not call for a cessation of violence on both sides of the conflict in the middle east. As a Jewish person, I have been so afraid to show my Judaism since Oct. 7. I don't wear Judaica jewelry anymore, I don't attend rallies for fear of violence, I don't allow my children to talk openly about their Judaism with certain peer groups and I get nervous when people come to my home (delivery people, contractors, etc) and can see the mezuzah on my door frame. As I'm sure you are well aware, Jews represent 2% of the U.S. population but are the victims of 50% of hate crimes in this country. Isn't that astounding? I certainly think it is. And those crimes have gone up tremendously since Oct. 7.

I don't know why Liz Walsh has taken to demonizing Jewish people in her community. I follow her social media and I just never expected the rhetoric she has put forth to come from her. It's shocking.

This legislation needs to be voted down and I am writing today to ask you to take a stand against Liz Walsh and antisemitism in this county and vote CR22 down.

Could I support this legislation in the future? Absolutely. But it must include a call for the unconditional release of all hostages and a permanent cessation of violence on all sides.

Ceasefires have been enacted before between Israel and Gaza. And 100% of the time those ceasefires have been broken by Gaza. Israel wants peace. Jews want peace. The real call for action needs to include a commitment by the Palestinians towards long lasting peace and a recognition of Israel's right to exist. The Palestinians have never agreed to the latter.

Please do the right thing and vote CR22 down.

A very concerned District member,

Bess Caplan

Founder and Chair, Wilde Lake CARES
6 time Wilde Lake Board of Director
Running Brook PTA President

Respass, Charity

From: Ilana Lowy <ilanalowydesign@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:36 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please Oppose CR22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear HoCo Council,

My name is Ilana Beth Lowy, I live in District 5 in Howard County.

I **oppose** CR22 and ask that the county council not only vote it down, but to only be in favor of resolutions going forward that bring our community together, not further divide.

Thank you.

Respass, Charity

From: Beth Stolte <elizabeth.stolte@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 6:54 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

This resolution does nothing to solve the very complicated and dangerous situation going on in the Middle East. As we've seen in other places that have made these performative resolutions, a public hearing will only create division and possibly cause violence. Violent protests on this issue have not happened here in Howard County. A hearing on this issue is asking for trouble. The right thing to do would be to withdraw this resolution because it doesn't affect the situation at all. If Ms Walsh wants to advocate for an unconditional ceasefire she is free to do that as a private citizen. Any tax dollars collected by Howard County do not go to fund the department of defense, the UN or any other federal agencies that deal with this conflict. This is not appropriate for a county council to be officially involved with.

Beth Stolte
District 2 resident

Respass, Charity

From: Billie Roogow <bijroo@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:12 PM
To: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Resolution CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the members of the Howard County Council and County Executive Calvin Ball,

I am writing to you today to express my deep concern and strong opposition to Resolution (CR 22-2024), introduced by Councilmember Walsh, which I believe is going to be first considered at the County Council meeting on February 5th.

I have lived in Howard County for over 40 years. My late husband, Buddy Roogow, was devoted to this county as am I and our 3 children. He worked for the County government for 13 years, his last position as County Administrator to Chuck Ecker. As a Jewish family living in Howard County we have always been in the minority but have always felt we had a voice and were safe. That is not the case now. After October 7 I was shocked to feel and see anti-semitism come to the forefront in everyday life here. This is not the Howard County that it was even 5 months ago!

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024.

According to the official government website, the Howard County Council is "responsible for making the laws that govern the County . . . [and is] the zoning authority and the licensing and enforcement authority for alcoholic beverages in the County." CR 22-2024 does not fall within the Council's mandate, and it is beyond overreaching for a Councilperson to submit, let alone attempt to pass, CR 22-2024.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email.

Sincerely,
Billie Roogow

Respass, Charity

From: Bohne Silber <silber@columbia-psychology.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:42 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please vote no to CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council:

I am a resident of Howard County District 4 and I am writing to you today to ask that you **vote no** for Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024 that demands an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calls upon the Biden administration to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urges certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

I support a resolution that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire.

Please vote no to Res CR22-2024!

Thank you,

Bohne Silber

Dr. Bohne Silber
Licensed Psychologist
Certified Couples Therapist
Certified Sex Therapy Informed Professional
www.howardcountymarriagecounseling.com
(410) 942-6596

Respass, Charity

From: Brad Greenspan <acrobg@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:14 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Regarding CR22-2024 - Reject

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

8145 Sea Water Path
Columbia, MD, 21045
February 2, 2024

3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

To The Members of The Howard County Council:

My name is Brad Greenspan, and I am writing to urge you to **reject CR22-2024**. My family and I live and worship in Howard County, and we very much appreciate that Howard County is “focused on becoming the best county not just overall, but for all.” Unfortunately, CR22-2024, if passed, will do just the opposite of that.

I am sure you have all received numerous phone calls and emails about the short-sightedness of the resolution, that it fails to condemn Hamas’ involvement in murdering and kidnapping civilians in Israel on 10/7, and how it ignores how Hamas perpetuates further violence in the region. I’m not writing about that. I’m writing about the resolution’s effects here in Howard County.

I love the commitment Howard County has to the ideals of diversity and inclusion. I love that when I go literally anywhere in Howard County, I see and interact with people of every social background, and I love how safe I feel knowing that we coexist and build a wonderful county with the different life experiences we all have. This resolution would break that. By passing this resolution, you are rejecting Jewish voices who have a nuanced understanding of the situation in Israel and Gaza. This tells Jews throughout the county that despite rising anti-Semitism in the country, which has also reared its ugly face here in Howard County in the aftermath of October 7, that our voices and concerns don’t matter. Voting for this resolution tells us that we don’t matter, that we don’t belong. This resolution makes my family and I, as well as our Jewish friends and colleagues, feel unsafe in Howard County. A resolution that includes a call for an immediate

return of all hostages captured by Hamas on October 7, the dismantling of Hamas, a known terrorist organization, followed by a ceasefire would be an acceptable alternative.

In closing, I implore you to reject CR22-2024. Passage of this will make every Jew in Howard County feel unsafe, that the county's government has abandoned them, that Howard County is really the best county for all, except the Jews. Please become "the best county for all," including the Jews. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Brad Greenspan

--Brad Greenspan
Field Representative, Mid-Atlantic Region
IATSE Local 798
cell: (323) 213-1555
email: acrobkg@gmail.com

Respass, Charity

From: Brenda Fishbein <bfishbein@fishbeinpa.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:47 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Res CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to you today to ask that you **vote no** for Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024 that demands an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calls upon the Biden administration to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urges certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

I support a resolution that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire.

Please vote no to Res CR22-2024!

Brenda Fishbein

Sent from my iPad

Respass, Charity

From: br brucerosenblummd.com <br@brucerosenblummd.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:36 PM
To: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov; jeri shuster; br brucerosenblummd.com
Subject: objection to CR22-2024 one sided, flawed, irresponsible "creasefire" resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Members of the Howard County Council and County Executive Calvin Ball,

I am writing to express my dismay, disappointment, and disbelief that the Howard County Council would even consider such a flawed, irresponsible, narrow minded, morally simplistic and divisive resolution. It does not even mention the calculated atrocities committed by Hamas on 10/7/24. Their long-standing genocidal aim is to kill all Jews and reject any compromise or negotiation toward peace with Israel. Hamas is not now and never has been interested in a two-state solution, only a Palestinian one and the complete annihilation of Israel and all Jews (see 1988 Hamas charter and article 7 and 13 below with link to full text below). I doubt the council is an expert on history, warfare, or international law yet it simplistically sites the "targeting" of civilians as a war crime, without describing that Hamas uses its civilians as human shields. Hamas has used billions in international aid, to build a system of underground concrete tunnels larger than London's underground - under hospitals, mosques, schools and in densely populated areas. It is Hamas that is targeted by Israel. Genocide is abhorrent and is obviously not the intent of the Israeli government as they could have achieved that in days, if that was their intent. The Israeli response to target Hamas, with the resultant immense suffering and unavoidable loss of life, was a known given to Hamas when they planned the 10/7/24 attack. They are responsible for the loss of life in Gaza and could end it easily with surrender and release of the hostages. It is irresponsible to blame Israel for a war that is now essential for the safety of 8 million Israelis. We all want a ceasefire, but it must be two sided. There is no mention of release of Israeli hostages or the surrender of Hamas leadership in the resolution. Since the creation of a two-state solution by the British in 1948 the Palestinians have rejected many proposals for a two-state solution. Israel has instituted efforts to warn civilians in many ways which have never been done in the history of warfare. Jews and Israeli's believe that all life is scared. We abhor the loss of innocent life. You will not see Israeli citizens or soldiers rejoicing, as we see Hamas celebrating in the burning of families alive, beheadings of people in front of their parents and children, rapping woman, and genital mutilation at a new age music festival. Twenty percent of Israelis are Arabs and have full voting rights within Israels borders. Women, LGBTs, minorities can go to school and are treated with similar humanitarian respect and ideals we also aim for here. Israel is not a perfect democracy or government, but it doesn't compare to the human rights situation in Gaza, the West Bank, or most of the Arab world. Islamic Jihadists ideology celebrates martyrdom and death. The teach the killing of all Jews in their elementary schools (some of them UN sponsored). I hope it is a matter of ignorance and insensitivity rather than Jew hatred that prompted the Howard County resolution. One of the special qualities of Howard County is that it has been a mecca for tolerance, inclusion, and diversity. The Howard County Council is trampling on this with a simplistic, one sided ceasefire resolution, blaming of Israel for the loss of life in Gaza, during a war it did not want and certainly did not choose.

Please reject this proposed resolution!

We are in district 5 so If possible, I would like to hear back from Mr Yungmann.

Bruce Rosenblum, MD

Our Rabbi, Craig Axler, is a spiritually uplifting and wise person with a loving heart for all people of all religions so I have included his thoughts below:

"To the members of the Howard County Council and County Executive Calvin Ball,
I am writing to you today to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the Resolution (CR 22-2024) introduced by Councilmember Walsh which I believe is going to be first considered at the County Council meeting on February 5th.

I will acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to speak with Councilmember Walsh today to express my concerns today, and I believe we had a productive and civil discussion, but I would like to be able to be on the record with the full council for the reasons of my strong opposition. I also want to note that I express this concern and opposition as an individual, but also as the Senior Rabbi of Temple Isaiah, on behalf of the 700 family member units of this congregation, the vast majority of which are Howard County Residents; a congregation that has been a proud member of the interfaith community of Howard County for more than fifty years and which treasures its associations with our elected officials and the role that we are able to serve as a partner faith organization towards the betterment of our greater community. Finally, I take up this opposition as an individual who was recently honored to be appointed by County Executive Ball to the new Interfaith Council for Howard County – and I believe it is my responsibility to be among those who represent the Jewish community in that important bridge between the faith communities and civil society.

Finally, I will share that I base this opposition to CR 22-2024 also in 40 years of Israel engagement that has been focused on peace-building, on the strengthening of Arab-Israeli and Muslim-Jewish relations, and as someone who has worked tirelessly as an advocate of a Two State Solution throughout the entirety of that time. I also spent much of the first week of January returning once again to Israel, but this time on a solidarity mission to witness the effects of the Hamas terror attacks of October 7th, the ongoing devastation, grief, anxiety and suffering caused by the attacks that Hamas initiated on that day and the resultant war that has raged since then. What I saw during this visit will likely haunt me throughout my life, and I continue to process it and to share about the carnage, the devastation and the impact of that single deadliest day in the history of the State of Israel. I shared in great detail with Councilmember Walsh and am willing to make time to talk to any of you individually about the things that I witnessed and the first-hand testimony that I received.

The crux of my opposition to CR 22-2024 is that the resolution calls for a ceasefire, but does not explicitly call for the release of all of the 130+ hostages (or remains of hostages) still being held in Gaza by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other associated terror groups. The ceasefire resolution also appears to be a one-sided ceasefire, which pins the blame for the devastating loss of innocent civilian life in Gaza and Israel solely on the actions of the State of Israel and the Israel Defense Forces. Further, the resolution makes no mention of the brutal events of the unprovoked attacks of October 7th, which claimed the lives of more than 1200 civilians – brutally murdered in their homes, in the fields, at a dance festival, on the road and in any place where the terrorists found them. Again, the details of these attacks have been chronicled by those who witnessed and survived, but also by the explicit body-cam images captured and disseminated by the Hamas terrorists. As someone who has seen some of the most graphic imagery that was deliberately and joyfully distributed by Hamas, I can tell you that when the deniers will come to say that these things did not take place, the very perpetrators of these actions will have provided the incontrovertible evidence.

I also shared with Councilmember Walsh my astonishment that she has referenced several leaders of the Democratic Party who have similarly called for ceasefire's in their resolutions. They specifically called for the immediate release of all 130-plus hostages. The decision to consciously omit this from the resolution submitted to the Howard County Council can be seen as nothing else than a deliberate decision to erase the existence and legitimacy of the lives of these hostages – civilians who range in age from one year old to mid-80s. This decision alone should make anyone who cares for all of humanity carefully consider what a vote for this resolution would say about their values, commitments and ethics.

I say all of this with the simultaneous deep concern for the untold amount of suffering being experienced by the civilian population of Gaza. The civilian casualty numbers are beyond comprehension, and I call on the Israel Defense Forces to do everything possible to avoid any and every civilian casualty, even as they legitimately proceed in this war against the Hamas terrorists who have repeatedly vowed to conduct attacks worse than October 7th again and again – witness repeated public statements by Hamas officials both in the Gaza strip and speaking from their relative safety of Qatar. I also pointed out to Councilmember Walsh that I believe any Ceasefire resolution must also acknowledge the deliberate and calculated tactics and actions of Hamas that make them culpable for substantial percentages of the civilian deaths that have occurred throughout the prosecution of Israel's war on Hamas. The employment of human shields, the placement of weapons depots, rocket launching stations and command centers deliberately inside of dense civilian areas, inside and beneath hospitals, schools, UNHCR facilities and other places which are sure to result in civilian loss of life have been a hallmark of Hamas' tactics for years, but in this specific war have resulted in the most devastating of consequences. My heart breaks for the civilian population of Gaza who are unsupportive of Hamas. I pray for their liberation from this brutal terror group.

Finally, I will share that in conversations with many members of Temple Isaiah, a constant refrain that I hear is "why was/is this the work of the Howard County Council?" I happen to agree with this sentiment. As someone who (like you) cares deeply for the strength and success of our community, I know that the County Council has real work to do in assuring that justice, equity, right and blessing are the shared bounty of all in our community. Advancing this legislation does nothing to forward that mission – and I will say it has already done great harm towards the relationships within our community, causing deeper divisions between people who genuinely care for one another, and who may have deeply divergent assessments of the Israel-Hamas war. No good comes from the introduction of this deeply flawed resolution.

I urge all members with my full voice to reject this resolution and to work towards actions that will help heal the divisions that this resolution has already caused. I pledge my support and assistance in doing just that. Submitted with great respect.

Rabbi Craig Axler"

Hamas Charter of 1988 (two articles-link to full text below)

Article Seven:

As a result of the fact that those Moslems who adhere to the ways of the Islamic Resistance Movement spread all over the world, rally support for it and its stands, strive towards enhancing its struggle, the Movement is a universal one. It is well-equipped for that because of the clarity of its ideology, the nobility of its aim and the loftiness of its objectives.

On this basis, the Movement should be viewed and evaluated, and its role be recognised. He who denies its right, evades supporting it and turns a blind eye to facts, whether intentionally or unintentionally, would awaken to see that events have overtaken him and with no logic to justify his attitude. One should certainly learn from past examples. The injustice of next-of-kin is harder to bear than the smite of the Indian sword.

"We have also sent down unto thee the book of the Koran with truth, confirming that scripture which was revealed before it; and preserving the same safe from corruption. Judge therefore between them according to that which Allah hath revealed; and follow not their desires, by swerving from the truth which hath come unto thee. Unto every of you have we given a law, and an open path; and if Allah had pleased, he had surely made you one people; but he hath thought it fit to give you different laws, that he might try you in that which he hath given you respectively. Therefore strive to excel each other in good works; unto Allah shall ye all return, and then will he declare unto you that concerning which ye have disagreed." (The Table, verse 48).

The Islamic Resistance Movement is one of the links in the chain of the struggle against the Zionist invaders. It goes back to 1939, to the emergence of the martyr Izz al-Din al Kissam and his brethren the fighters, members of Moslem Brotherhood. It goes on to reach out and become one with another chain that includes the struggle of the Palestinians and Moslem Brotherhood in the 1948 war and the Jihad operations of the Moslem Brotherhood in 1968 and after.

Moreover, if the links have been distant from each other and if obstacles, placed by those who are the lackeys of Zionism in the way of the fighters obstructed the continuation of the struggle, the Islamic Resistance Movement aspires to the realisation of Allah's promise, no matter how long that should take. The Prophet, Allah bless him and grant him salvation, has said:

"The Day of Judgement will not come about until Moslems fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Moslems, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him. Only the Gharkad tree, (evidently a certain kind of tree) would not do that because it is one of the trees of the Jews." (related by al-Bukhari and Moslem).

Article Thirteen:

Initiatives, and so-called peaceful solutions and international conferences, are in contradiction to the principles of the Islamic Resistance Movement. Abusing any part of Palestine is abuse directed against part of religion. Nationalism of the Islamic Resistance Movement is part of its religion. Its members have been fed on that. For the sake of hoisting the banner of Allah over their homeland they fight. "Allah will be prominent, but most people do not know." Now and then the call goes out for the convening of an international conference to look for ways of solving the (Palestinian) question. Some accept, others reject the idea, for this or other reason, with one stipulation or more for consent to convening the conference and participating in it. Knowing the parties constituting the conference, their past and present attitudes towards Moslem problems, the Islamic Resistance Movement does not consider these conferences capable of realising the demands, restoring the rights or doing justice to the oppressed. These conferences are only ways of setting the infidels in the land of the Moslems as arbitrators. When did the infidels do justice to the believers?

"But the Jews will not be pleased with thee, neither the Christians, until thou follow their religion; say, The direction of Allah is the true direction. And verily if thou follow their desires, after the knowledge which hath been given thee, thou shalt find no patron or protector against Allah." (The Cow - verse 120).

There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals and international conferences are all a waste of time and vain endeavors. The Palestinian people know better than to consent to having their future, rights and fate toyed with. As in said in the honourable Hadith:

"The people of Syria are Allah's lash in His land. He wreaks His vengeance through them against whomsoever He wishes among His slaves It is unthinkable that those who are double-faced among them should prosper over the faithful. They will certainly die out of grief and desperation."

https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp

Respass, Charity

From: Cassidy <ckristalcoh@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:58 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support Ceasefire Resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm writing as a Jewish Maryland constituent to ask that you **support the resolution CR22-2024** calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

While this may be a symbolic act, it shows that Howard County won't be complicit in a siege that has called more civilians than in any "war" in recent memory. Countless Israeli officials and military leaders have made clear that their intention is to "level Gaza" and kill as many Palestinian men, women, and children as possible.

Israel will never defeat Hamas and their current strategy is only throwing gasoline on fire. For every young boy who is trapped under rubble or who witnesses their parent or sibling be killed, there are countless others who begin to see extremism as the only way forward. This war can only make Jewish people less safe and more vulnerable to violent attacks

Please support the ceasefire resolution.

Thank you,
Cassidy Kristal-Cohen

Respass, Charity

From: C Greenberg <celia.greenberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:38 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council members.

This resolution calling for a ceasefire in the war between Israel and Hamas fails to note that on October 6, 2023 there was a ceasefire in effect. Hamas broke the existing ceasefire with a murderous rampage, rape, and hostage taking. If Howard County must make a statement, the release of the remaining one hundred hostages now held for 4 months must be addressed.

Why is this before the Howard County Council? The county council should stay out of foreign affairs. Full stop. Other than creating anger and division in Howard County it is a waste of the council's time.

On a long term perspective I do not want my future votes for County Council to be affected by candidates' positions on national and international affairs that are decided at the national level. If I completely agree with someone's ideas on Howard County growth, should my vote change because we disagree about arms for Ukraine or funding the IRS?

Sincerely,

Celia Greenberg

10702 Faulker Ridge
Columbia, 21044

Respass, Charity

From: Chelsea Salzberg <chelsea.salzberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:53 PM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilMail
Subject: CR22 Resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello:

My name is Chelsea Salzberg. I am a District 1 resident of Howard County. I am writing to strongly oppose CR22 and ask that the county council vote it down.

Thank you,
Chelsea Salzberg

Respass, Charity

From: C Gocke <1cgocke@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:03 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution No. 22 -2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Asa resident of Howard County, I am opposed to the Council's Resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine war. I ask you not to pass the resolution. While I oppose the violence taking place in the Middle East, I do not believe this is the business of the Howard County Council. The Biden administration is working diligently and appropriately to restrict or end the fighting and the Council's actions do not add to this; they amount to grandstanding.

Sincerely,
Christopher Gocke

Respass, Charity

From: Chuck Iny <chuckiny@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:27 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024.
Chuck Iny

Respass, Charity

From: Cindy Newman <cnewmancpa@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 7:39 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024.

Thank you,
Cynthia F. Newman

Respass, Charity

From: Daljit Soni <daljitkdhami@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:24 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR 22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I live in Fulton district 4 and am represented by CM Jung.

Please support CR22 for a ceasefire in Gaza because our county must stand on the right side of history. Our state of MD sends \$70 million every year to arm an apartheid state. Ceasefire is urgent because every 2 minutes a mother is killed by munitions and weapons that we send to Israel.

History will look back at this moment. Let's make our grandkids proud of our convictions.

This is a local

Issue because many many Palestinians live here. At least three high schools in this county have students who have experienced intimidation and harsh anti Palestinian hate. We can and should do better.

My friend Lena lost 10 relatives Ina single air strike. Her grandmother who she hasn't Been able to see because of a 16 year siege and blockade of Gaza was buried twice. Because they found half her body a few days after the first funeral. This is a historical wrong and we must speak up.

Ceasefire now.

Thank you!

Daljit Soni Esq
Mother and attorney

Respass, Charity

From: Debby Greene <inydebby@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:00 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: No CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024.

Thank you,
Debby Greene

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Deborah Belchis <dbelchis@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:48 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth
Subject: Resolution CD22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Representative Walsh,

I am a resident in your district and voted for you in the last election. It is therefore with great sadness that I read your resolution regarding the current Middle East conflict.

I am also concerned about the humanitarian crisis that is unfolding in Gaza. Your resolution, however, unlike the policy statement proposed by J Street, fails to even mention the release of the hostages and ceasing the perpetual bombing of Israel by Hamas. The current war was provoked by Hamas' carrying out a vicious and deadly attack on Israeli citizens, including the rape of women and the murder of children. Global leaders are trying to end the war in Gaza and bring aid to the Palestinian citizens. However, a true ceasefire and actual end to the conflict will need Hamas to also lay down their weapons and agree to free the hostages.

I agree with J Street's call to facilitate robust humanitarian aid, to enact zero tolerance for settler violence, and to end all provocative policies and actions in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. However, their statement also acknowledges the role of Hamas in this conflict. Your proposal does not.

I think resolution CB22-2024 as written will only create a feeling of alienation and disaffection within the Jewish community. Anti Semitism is on the rise in the United States and all over the world. I think a one-sided resolution like this one only fuels the flames and does not provide a true path to peace.

I cannot support a resolution that I see as only increasing the strife and division that already is tearing our community apart.

Sincerely,
Deborah Belchis
Ellicott City

Respass, Charity

From: Dennis Gleicher <dgleicher@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:40 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Res CR22-2024!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to ask that you vote NO on this resolution that demands an immediate cease fire in the war against Hamas in Gaza.

Hamas started this war by breaking the existing cease fire on October 7, 2023 and killing, raping and mutilating Israeli citizens as well as foreign workers inside Israel's sovereign state. They threaten to do it again and again. If Israel stops fighting them, the State of Israel and all it's citizens, including 2 million Arabs, will never have peace.

The only way to end this war is for Hamas to lay down their weapons and release the innocent hostages and allow for a new government that is interested in peaceful coexistence to take over the Gaza strip.

Thank you,
Dennis Gleicher, MD
11660 Masters Run
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Respass, Charity

From: Ed Kutler <ed@thekutlergroup.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 7:09 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR 22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

As a resident of Howard County, I strongly urge a no vote next week on CR 22. Howard County city council has no expertise or interest in foreign policy. Better focus on your current jobs representing the residents of the county

As a volunteer tutor in three local schools, there is plenty of work for you to do there instead of voicing ill informed opinions about events around the world.

Respass, Charity

From: Emily Greenberger <ergreenberger@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:35 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Against Liz Walsh CR 22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello. I am writing this email to assertively oppose Liz Walsh's proposed "resolution." I am a therapist in the community and a parent of three children and our family moved here for its diversity and civility. There is nothing inclusive or civil about such a divisive and unnecessary statement by a local local government that has absolutely no business speaking about. It is my opinion that Miss Walsh should stay in her lane, which is I believe local government. Instead, she has created a public forum on her social media, and within the community to cultivate angry and misguided and toxic dialogue that has absolutely no place in or on this council or in our community. There are certain places where Miss Walsh can appropriately express her own personal opinions, which is 100% her business. However, she is not in any position to have any say about foreign affairs that could possibly represent an entire community. It is my personal and professional opinion that anything short of canceling the meeting on Monday and disallowing this type of misguided propaganda would be damaging to our community .

Emily Greenberger

Respass, Charity

From: Emma Schreier <emma.schreier@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:32 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support CR22 Calling for a Ceasefire in Gaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good morning,

I hope you're doing well. My name is Emma Schreier, I live in District 3 and I'm represented by Christiana Rigby. I am asking you to support CR22 calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. Like many young democrats, I am outraged that the Biden Administration is actively participating in the indiscriminate killing of civilians in Gaza and mass destruction of civilian property. I am greatly saddened by the role my government has taken in the killing of over 20,000 individuals in Gaza. I ask that you follow the lead of Senator Van Hollen and call for a ceasefire with CR22.

Thank you for your time,

Emma Schreier

Respass, Charity

From: Eric Krupkin <eric.krupkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:14 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

As a 20 yr. Howard County resident, I would like you to vote against CR22-2024. I am also in favor of a ceasefire, but the bill says nothing about the 130 hostages that remain in Gaza. It also doesn't explain how Hamas is the leadership in Gaza.

Thank you,
Eric Krupkin

--
Eric

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Eslam Omar <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:49 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am deeply concerned about the crisis in Gaza, where over 27,000 lives have been tragically lost. I urge your support for Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution. This action aligns with Maryland's values of human rights and peace. Your support will reflect our community's commitment to global humanitarian issues.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Eslam Omar
eslam.omar.ph@hotmail.com
10264 Wayover Way
COLUMBIA, Maryland 21046

Respass, Charity

From: Fazle Siddique <fazle.siddique@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:17 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR-22 Cease Fire Resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I live in Columbia, MD in Council District 2, and I'm represented by Councilmember Opel Jones. I wish that you would please support CR-22 calling for a cease-fire in Gaza, and allow the vote to occur during an open session. Too many innocent civilian lives have been lost in the conflict.

Respass, Charity

From: Fern B <fernbab2020@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:36 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please read

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello.

I am a Howard County resident in Liz Walsh's district with extensive experience as a college professor visiting and speaking with both Israelis and Palestinians in the Middle East.

I think Ms. Walsh does not realize how awful life is for Gazans subjected to the absolute misery of life under their freely chosen government, the terrorist organization Hamas.

Aid money is diverted to build terror tunnels rather than improve the lives of Gazans. Water pipes are turned into rockets, and launchers placed in schools, hospitals, mosques and private homes. Corrupt Hamas leaders are billionaires living in Qatar and Turkey, while they sacrifice the lives of their own people.

Calling for a ceasefire without calling for the surrender and disarming of Hamas will be an absolute nightmare for the Gazan people.

Hamas would like nothing more than Liz Walsh's ceasefire where they could rearm, commit more October 7th atrocities, as they publicly stated, and continue to use their poor civilians as human shields. Iran would be delighted to see more U.S. communities supporting their terrorist proxy that broke the existing ceasefire on October 7th with a horrific massacre of civilians.

Hamas built an underground tunnel network bigger than the London Underground- why didn't they protect women and children there, rather than using it to shield their militants and their arms? Why did they not build even one bomb shelter? I have a video of Hamas shooting at Gazans making their way towards safe zones. They are evil.

Anyone truly interested in human rights needs to free Gazans from the tyranny of Hamas.

Instead of calling for what Hamas wants- why not call for the return of the hostages and the surrender of Hamas, which will lead to an immediate ceasefire, peace and a better life for Gazans?

It's shameful that Howard County council members would support a terrorist organization's goals.

Please vote NO on the misguided ceasefire resolution.

Respectfully,
Prof. F.R. Freed
Ellicott City

Respass, Charity

From: Frances M <makfin27@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:31 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: County business

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear All:

I have lived in Howard county for the last 45 years, and have always been very grateful to be here as I have felt safe, accepted, and like our Government is well run. The handling of CR22-2024 has changed my mind. I have no idea why the county is involved with Israel, when it seems to me like the purpose of a COUNTY council is to run our county. From where I sit, crime has gone up in our county, our hospital's ER is tragically slow (was there 6 months ago), many kids aren't feeling safe in school, and on playgrounds. These are issues I want our county council spending time on. Israel is a national problem, which is why we elect officials to go to DC. Also, the idea of a cease fire is a great one, but only if the hostages are returned to Israel first. So, please get out of national politics, and help to restore Howard County to the luster it had when I first moved here and felt safe and accepted.

Thank you,
Frances Makino
4128 Sharp Rd.
Glenelg MD 21737

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Frank Rhoad <frank.rhoad@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 7:06 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Representative Walsh,

I urge you to vote against resolution CR22-2024. This resolution will obviously have no impact on the conflict in Israel. It is about sending a message. However, no one outside of Howard County will even hear about it much less care. Therefore, the message you want to send to the people of Howard County is the only question at hand.

The first whereas contains the most offensive language in the resolution. It implies Israel is targeting civilians. Obviously Hamas targeted civilians on October 7. The reverse is emphatically not true. The council has no IDF targeting information of any kind. You have no idea how or why they pick targets in general or any particular target specifically.

Just as offensive is the language not in the resolution. No mention of the precipitating event, no mention of hostages, no mention of Israel's right of self defense. These omissions are stunning in their bias.

What was true before October 7 is true today: if Hamas lays down their arms there will be peace. If Israel lays down its arms Hamas will exterminate every Jew they can.

Antisemitism can be defined as the hatred of Jews. Hate is a feeling, and no one can truly know the heart of another. But there is different, much more objective definition of antisemitism. Holding Israel to a different standard than any other country on the globe is anti-Semitism. By that definition the very existence of this resolution is anti-Semitic. That is the message you will send to the residents of Howard County if you vote for this resolution.

Sincerely,

Frank Rhoad
8022 Nottingham Way
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Respass, Charity

From: Fred Berko <fredberko@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:12 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR 22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Members of the Howard County Council

I am writing to you today to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the Resolution (CR 22-2024) introduced by Liz Walsh which I believe is going to be considered at the February 5th County Council meeting.

This resolution is deeply flawed and one-sided, and, in my opinion, does not represent the position of the majority of residents of Howard County.

I see nothing to be gained, and much to be lost, by approving this resolution, and urge that it not be approved.

Very Respectfully,

Fred Berko
7718 River Rock Way
Columbia, MD 21044

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Fred Thomsen <fred.thomsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:24 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Councilwoman Walsh,

As a resident of your district I am writing you with regard to Resolution CR22-2024, which will be considered by the council on Monday evening. While I appreciate and support the sentiments expressed in the resolution, I would like to encourage you to make some changes.

There is no question in my mind that we should all encourage the Biden administration to facilitate a cease fire in the war in Gaza, and to do all it can to alleviate the humanitarian crisis. But, any resolution of this sort must also include a call for the return of all hostages currently held. In addition, I think we should be urging the administration to do all it can to influence a true and lasting peace that respects the dignity and humanity and ensures the security of all residents in the region, Palestinians and Israelis alike.

Thank you for your consideration,

Fred Thomsen

Respass, Charity

From: Gilad Eichhorn <gileich@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:42 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please vote against CR22-2024!

Thanks!

Gilad Eichhorn
Sent from my iPhone

Anderson, Isaiah

From: greta boeringer Schoenberg <gboeringer@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:15 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I share your concern about the Gaza civilians affected by this war and those destroyed by it.

And yet, I am writing to oppose CR22-2024 because it does not cry out for the return of the hostages or their remains, and does not decry the invasion and terrorism committed on October 7 and demand justice for those involved in the attacks.

It is important that Hamas and UNRWA meet their obligations to the Palestinians. The first step would be to return the hostages or their bodies to Israel.

I'd be most comfortable if the resolution included language supporting Israel's right to exist and to defend itself and its borders.

This is consistent with Secretary Austin's words today regarding our position in the Middle East responding to the three deaths in Jordan. Israel, too, must be permitted to fight terrorism.

If you think of the % of the US population (332 Million) killed on 9/11 and compare that to the % of Israeli population (less than 10 Million) killed and injured on October 7 it was much worse than what we suffered and think that our response resulted in the deaths of 432,093 civilians in the Middle East (Yemen, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and Pakistan). <https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/human/civilians>

Thank you for your thoughtful proposal and for reading my ideas about it. I pray for peace in the Middle East and for the safe return of the Hostages and the safety of Israel.

Thank you for your consideration.

Greta

Greta Boeringer Schoenberg
2893 Rosemar Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

c 301-580-2844
gboeringer@gmail.com

Respass, Charity

From: Hager Elgendi <helgendi7@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 7:34 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Calling for ceasefire

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council and Council Representative Opel Jones, I live in Howard County in Council District 3, and I'm represented by Council member Opel Jones. I am writing to ask you to support CR22 calling for a cease-fire in Gaza because this continued war is not only leading to death and destruction overseas but it is leading to hate in our own community. The number of hate crimes and hate incidents in our communities have significantly increased due to this ongoing war. This war has led and will continue to lead to increased Islamophobia in our communities right here. Allowing this war to continue will only hurt this community further. The people that are silent as Palestinians are massacred today are the same ones who would have been silent when the holocaust took place. Let's call for a permanent ceasefire so we can heal together

Thank you,

Hager Elgendi

Respass, Charity

From: Hannah Sanderson Buchner <hsbuchner@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:29 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: STRONGLY OPPOSED to Liz Walsh's CR 22-2024 resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

With the news last night that Howard County Council Member Liz Walsh's Ceasefire resolution to the Howard County council will be fast-tracked to a vote on Monday rather than go through the public comment that was scheduled for February 20th, I wanted to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the Resolution (CR 22-2024) introduced by Councilmember Walsh.

I will acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to speak with Councilmember Walsh today to express my concerns today, and I believe we had a productive and civil discussion, but I would like to be able to be on the record with the full council for the reasons of my strong opposition. I also want to note that I express this concern and opposition as an individual, but also as the Senior Rabbi of Temple Isaiah, on behalf of the 700 family member units of this congregation, the vast majority of which are Howard County Residents; a congregation that has been a proud member of the interfaith community of Howard County for more than fifty years and which treasures its associations with our elected officials and the role that we are able to serve as a partner faith organization towards the betterment of our greater community. Finally, I take up this opposition as an individual who was recently honored to be appointed by County Executive Ball to the new Interfaith Council for Howard County – and I believe it is my responsibility to be among those who represent the Jewish community in that important bridge between the faith communities and civil society.

The crux of my opposition to CR 22-2024 is that the resolution calls for a ceasefire, but does not explicitly call for the release of all of the 130+ hostages (or remains of hostages) still being held in Gaza by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other associated terror groups. The ceasefire resolution also appears to be a one-sided ceasefire, which pins the blame for the devastating loss of innocent civilian life in Gaza and Israel solely on the actions of the State of Israel and the Israel Defense Forces. Further, the resolution makes no mention of the brutal events of the unprovoked attacks of October 7th, which claimed the lives of more than 1200 civilians – brutally murdered in their homes, in the fields, at a dance festival, on the road and in any place where the terrorists found them. Again, the details of these attacks have been chronicled by those who witnessed and survived, but also by the explicit body-cam images captured and disseminated by the Hamas terrorists. As someone who has seen some of the most graphic imagery that was deliberately and joyfully distributed by Hamas, I can tell you that when the deniers will come to say that these things did not take place, the very perpetrators of these actions will have provided the incontrovertible evidence.

If the International Court of Justice itself recently called for the return of all hostages and did not ultimately call for a ceasefire, why would our county council? It literally does not make logical sense.

Councilmember Walsh referenced several leaders of the Democratic Party who have similarly called for ceasefire's in their resolutions. They specifically called for the immediate release of all 130-plus hostages. The decision to consciously omit this from the resolution submitted to the Howard County Council can be seen as nothing else than a deliberate decision to erase the existence and legitimacy of the lives of these hostages – civilians who range in age from one year old to mid-80s. This decision alone should make anyone who cares for all of humanity carefully consider what a vote for this resolution would say about their values, commitments and ethics.

I say all of this with the simultaneous deep concern for the untold amount of suffering being experienced by the civilian population of Gaza. The civilian casualty numbers are beyond comprehension, and I call on the Israel Defense Forces to

do everything possible to avoid any and every civilian casualty, even as they legitimately proceed in this war against the Hamas terrorists who have repeatedly vowed to conduct attacks worse than October 7th again and again – witness repeated public statements by Hamas officials both in the Gaza strip and speaking from their relative safety of Qatar.

Any Ceasefire resolution must also acknowledge the deliberate and calculated tactics and actions of Hamas that make them culpable for substantial percentages of the civilian deaths that have occurred throughout the prosecution of Israel's war on Hamas. The employment of human shields, the placement of weapons depots, rocket launching stations and command centers deliberately inside of dense civilian areas, inside and beneath hospitals, schools, UNHCR facilities and other places which are sure to result in civilian loss of life have been a hallmark of Hamas' tactics for years, but in this specific war have resulted in the most devastating of consequences.

Lastly, why is this the work of the Howard County Council?

In sum, I reject this resolution and the division it has already caused.

Respass, Charity

From: Harriet Bachman <hlbachfam@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:13 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution CR22-24

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To our Concilmembers:

We are opposed to the current wording of CR22-24. We are in support of a ceasefire in the current war between Israel and Hamas, but we believe that a ceasefire must be tied to the release of the hostages. We would be at the council meeting in person, but we will be out of town. We appreciate your work on this important issue.

Harriet and Larry Bachman
9426 North Penfield Road
Columbia, MD 21045

Respass, Charity

From: Harry Kozlovsky <hkozlovsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:46 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution calling for a ceasefire

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

How disgusting now even Howard County has become, to even consider a vote that takes no care to acknowledge the massacre that initiated this war, the terrorists that continue to hold hostages from that massacre and used to save their own lives, and the call for the destruction of Israel as the solution.

You should all be ashamed of yourselves to be called Americans.

My parents were Holocaust survivors and I am happy they are no longer here to witness the disaster governments like yours have become in the United States of America. On the other hand if the Holocaust generation were still here, they could offer you all education you so sorely lack.

Harry Kozlovsky

Respass, Charity

From: Yahoo Mail <hsafren@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:37 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Genocide Resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To all of the Council Members:

I most strongly urge you to defeat the resolution accusing Israel of genocide.

While reasonable objections can be raised about the IDF's targeting practices, and while objections can certainly be raised against the ugly behavior of some of the West Bank settlers, to accuse the Jewish state of genocide is a moral abomination.

Defeat this morally repugnant resolution!

Harvey Safren
Columbia, MD

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Heba Shehata <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:39 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Heba Shehata
heba.adel79@gmail.com
2246 Daisy Rd
Woodbine , Maryland 21797

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Hena Rahman <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:39 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,
Hena

Hena Rahman
hayub@yahoo.com
4330 Riviera Sun Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Respass, Charity

From: Ilana Lowy <ibdunetz@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:28 AM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: I OPPOSE CR22-2024, please consider my vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear members of the Howard County Council & County Executive Calvin Ball,

I am writing to you today to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the Resolution (CR 22-2024) introduced by Councilmember Walsh.

The heart of my opposition to CR 22-2024 is that the resolution calls for an unconditional ceasefire.

- There is no mention for the immediate release of the 130+ hostages (or remains of hostages) still being held in Gaza by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other associated terror groups.
- This ceasefire resolution also appears to be a one-sided ceasefire, which pins the blame for the devastating loss of innocent civilian life in Gaza and Israel solely on the actions of the State of Israel. There is zero mention of the deliberate and calculated tactics of Hamas that make them responsible for substantial percentages of the civilian deaths that have occurred throughout Israel's war on Hamas. When presenting a resolution only calling for one side, in this case Israel, to put their arms down, think about what you are actually calling for- Hamas has repeatedly vowed to conduct attacks worse than October 7th again and again. Passing a resolution for Israel to ceasefire unconditionally is putting rhetoric into play that gives permission & acceptance for Hamas to continue carrying out these vile attacks.

The decision to consciously omit these points from the resolution presents as a deliberate decision to erase the existence and legitimacy of the lives of these hostages and, since I am being frank here, creates deeper divisions between people who genuinely care for one another, and who may have deeply divergent assessments of the Israel-Hamas war. No good comes from the introduction of this deeply flawed resolution.

Our hearts break for the civilian population of Gaza who are unsupportive of Hamas. I pray for their liberation from this brutal terror group. I also pray for peace and the end of suffering of ALL innocent civilians who have been thrust into this war.

I vehemently reject this resolution and am ONLY in favor of strides to help heal the divisions that this resolution has already caused.

Sincerely,
Ilana Lowy

Respass, Charity

From: Irene Hechler <srah6094@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:49 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I support ceasefire in Gaza, the provision of substantive humanitarian/medical aid by the US and other world nations, including assistance in rebuilding. It grieves me that so many precious lives are lost, so much catastrophic destruction, and the deep despair and inhumane living conditions of the children, men, and women of Gaza -' caught in the winds of a war provoked by Hamas, the governing party of Gaza.

I am for the return of Israeli hostages, with UN visitation/proof of life as an immediate step. I fret about the destruction of Israeli border communities, the murder of Israelis, the savagery of October 7th -- the purposeful attack by Hamas and Islamic Jihad -- a catalyst for this war which has led to such dire conditions for everyday people.

Yet, I am troubled by this proposed resolution. I urge the Howard County Council to revise/amend the resolution so that it is more balanced, promoting ceasefire by all parties to the conflict.

This includes recognizing the right of Israel to exist, without terror/invasion/destruction -- the right of Gaza to exist without terror/invasion/destruction, return of Israeli hostages, provision of deep humanitarian aid and rebuilding for the people of Gaza. I believe that US leadership/support/participation is imperative.

I do have a question. I am not familiar with Howard County Council's resolution building - its purpose, use, and outcomes. Does the Council typically take positions and work to influence others on national and international conflicts, disasters, and humanitarian issues? If so, it must be hard to hear and balance the divergent priorities and views of Howard County citizens.

Thank you for all that you do to benefit Howard County and its residents.

Irene Hechler
Columbia Town Center

Respass, Charity

From: irene vogel <ivogel58@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:41 PM
To: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

County Council Resolution [CR22-2024](#) for a ceasefire in Gaza and hope you do not vote for this resolution.

I have been a proud resident of Howard County for 35 years. I have also been a proud member of the Jewish community of Howard County. My husband and I have raised our daughter (now 31) here. We live in East Columbia and daughter has grown up with friends of many different backgrounds (ethnicities, race and economic). We have been members of 3 different Jewish Congregations throughout the years. Our congregations have always worked to support our less fortunate citizens of Howard County, fought for the equity for all and supported those movements.

We ask now that you return the support. The terrorist attack of Oct 7 was horrific and Hamas was well aware of what the response would be. Much of the Jewish community shares the nightmare of the war in Gaza and the numbers of people killed/injured. Our congregation pray for the citizens and leaders of Israel and the innocent of Palestine equally.

There are 2 points overtly missing from this resolution.

1. Israel has a right to exist and must be able to defend herself.
2. Demand the hostages taken in the terrorist attacks on October 7th be returned immediately.

The Jewish community has always supported all races, religions, and marginalized people everywhere. Our congregation alone supports Grassroots, an interfaith support of an Afghan family immigrated to Howard County, a Racial Justice committee, Shabbat service celebrating Black

History month, program on Juneteenth as well as other discussion groups. We demand your support now.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respass, Charity

From: Isabel Freedman <latte_lady@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:31 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

PLEASE 🙏 "I would like you to vote against CR22-2024,"

Isabel Marks Freedman
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Respass, Charity

From: James Caffey <jimcaffey65@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:45 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Reject CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Members,

It is my opinion that resolutions on actions halfway around the world should not be within the purview of any county council in this country and that my county council's focus should be on our county's well being and not a war 6,000 miles away. Given that there IS a resolution on something clearly outside the Council's purview, with respect to Resolution CR22-2024, I ask that you reject it in whole.

Israel has every right to exist in its ancestral homelands and to defend that right to exist with any and all means necessary. The war started with a brazen, unprovoked attack by Hamas on unarmed citizens of Israel that led to over 1,200 men, women and children brutally murdered and over a hundred Hostages taken. Israel has every right to defend itself and has every right to prosecute this war until the threat has been eliminated,

Putting any resolution forward that does not also recognize these rights, is wrong at best and misleading at worst.

If my county council is bent on making resolutions that in my opinion it has no charter to do, then I would recommend that it be resolved that Howard County Council demand that Hamas unconditionally surrender and return the hostages, both living and dead.

Anything less is just prolonging the conflict.

Sincerely,

James Caffey
5075 Bucketpost Ct
Columbia, MD 21045-1933
Cell: 443.745.2102

Respass, Charity

From: Janet Brady <janetebrady@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:22 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Proposed Gaza Resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Members,

I've lived in Howard County for 52 years & I am not aware of any previous resolutions that were considered regarding an international situation.
But I now have the request below of the members.

Please ensure that any proposed resolution definitely states first & foremost that

- Israel has the right to exist & to protect its citizens
- All hostages taken must be immediately returned

Thank you very much for your response to my request & comments.

Sincerely,

Janet E. Brady

Sent from my iPad

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Jasim Ahmed <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:57 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CEASEFIRE NOW!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am deeply concerned about the crisis in Gaza, where over 27,000 lives have been tragically lost. I urge your support for Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution. This action aligns with Maryland's values of human rights and peace. Your support will reflect our community's commitment to global humanitarian issues.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Jasim Ahmed
jasim.a09@gmail.com
9215
Belfall , Maryland 21045

Respass, Charity

From: JEFFREY MARCUS <marcusfamily@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 7:35 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22 Cease Fire in Gaza
Attachments: CR22.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

It is my understanding that the County Council will consider a resolution introduced by Liz Walsh (my County Council representative) regarding a cease fire in Gaza. I strongly agree that the humanitarian crisis there needs to be addressed immediately, but I am concerned that the resolution does not mention that this was stated by Hamas' unprovoked attack on Israeli citizens and continued holding of hostages.

In the attached, I have copied the resolution and offer (in Word's revisions mode) some suggested edits to address my concerns.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment on the resolution, and ask that you consider and address my concerns.

Jeff Marcus
Resident of Ellicott City

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2024 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 2

Resolution No. 22-2024

Introduced by: Liz Walsh

A RESOLUTION demanding an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calling upon the Biden administration to facilitate certain humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urging certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

WHEREAS, all human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians, no matter their faith or ethnicity, is a violation of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Israel's response to the unprovoked attack by Hamas on Israeli civilians and Hamas' continued holding of Israeli citizens as hostages, between October 7, 2023 and January 25, 2024, armed violence has claimed the lives of over 25,000 Palestinians and over 1,400 Israelis, including Americans, and wounded thousands more; and the innocent civilians now facing mass starvation

Commented [JM1]: Suggest using the date of the resolution. The problem remains; it did not end on January 25

WHEREAS, Maryland's United States Congressmen Kweisi Mfume and Jamie Raskin, and most recently Senator Chris Van Hollen, have called for an immediate cease-fire;

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk if a cease-fire is not achieved and humanitarian aid is not delivered without further delay.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland this _____ day of _____, 2024 that Howard County Council demands that the Biden administration immediately call for and facilitate a cease-fire in Gaza and the release of all hostages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Howard County Council calls upon the Biden administration to promptly send and facilitate the entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to United States Congressmen Dutch Ruppersburger, John Sarbanes, Glenn Ivey, Steny Hoyer, David Trone, Kweisi Mfume and Jamie Raskin; United States Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen; and to President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, urging them to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

Respass, Charity

From: Jennifer Lieberman Kamino <jennifer.lieberman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:15 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: I oppose CR22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Jennifer Lieberman , I live in Howard County. I **oppose CR22** and ask that the county council vote it down. This is not something to take lightly.

Thank you

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Jeri Shuster <edbandj@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:49 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR 22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

Please do not support resolution CR 22-2024 that calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. This resolution does nothing to demand release of hostages, including Israeli and American citizens. Hamas has promised "October 7th" and worse every day. Sadly, the unfortunate result of a ceasefire would enable Hamas to continue perpetrating barbaric acts of terror.

Please recall the October 7th gleeful, jubilant Hamas terrorist who phoned home to his parents while committing atrocities against Israeli civilian kibbutznicks, "Mom and Dad, you'll be so proud of me: I'm killing Jews." I trust that you are aware of the magnitude of barbaric atrocities committed by Hamas, so I will not review them here, but I ask you to privately review them and never forget what occurred. Do you really want to facilitate daily replays of October 7th?

Perhaps you can find more wisdom in a resolution that calls for a bilateral ceasefire and immediate release of all hostages.

I have made my home in Howard County for almost 40 years. For most of that time I have had a medical practice caring for women, including women from a multiplicity of nationalities, religions, and races. For all of them, I have tried to promote health and to alleviate pain and suffering. Resolution CR 22-2024 will be unable to accomplish this noble goal as it is almost certain to result in continued atrocities committed against Israelis and Jews throughout the world.

Although you have been requested to support this resolution by CAIR, I am unable to see how the Howard County Council's plan to interject its opinion into international politics fulfills your mission as civil servants of Howard County residents:

Wkh#Frqxw|Frqxfl#Frqvlw#ri#lyh#hp ehuv#kr#huyh#irxu0|hdu#hup v#lqg#z kr/#vlfh#<;9/#
kdyh#ehhg#hdfwng#urp #lyh#hsdudw#glwulfw#Wkhuh#lv#Wkuh#hup #lp l#iru#Frqxfl#hp ehuv|
Wkh#hdfwng#hp ehuv#i#kh#Frqxfl#huyh#lv#kh#Frqxw|*#hj#vdlwlyh#udqfk/#lv#kh#rqlqj#
Erdug/#lqg#lv#kh#Dlxru#Erdugl#Wkh|#lor#surylgh#Frqvlw#hqw#huylfhv#iru#hvlghqfhv#lq#khlu#
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Wkdqn#|rx#iru#|rxu#huylfh#lqg#iru#hvnlgj#kh#lp h#r#lvwq#r#kklv#Krz dug#Frqxw|#hvlghqwl

Mul#kxvwhu#P G

Respass, Charity

From: Jill Smulson <ajillity81@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:47 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Cr22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jill Smulson and I have been a Howard County resident for 12 years. I currently reside in District 1. I am also a mother, software developer, and proud Jewish American.

I am writing to passionately oppose the passing of Resolution 22 demanding a ceasefire in Gaza. At its foundation, this resolution is purely an act of virtue signaling and bears no impact on the actual security decisions of a foreign country.

As elected Howard County council members, you are “responsible for making the laws that govern the COUNTY” per the HC website. I don’t see anything about international affairs anywhere in that description. It is arrogant and ignorant to assume your position grants you the authority to pass this resolution without having any true expertise in international affairs, the complex middle east conflict nor access to the secure intel and negotiations that are currently taking place.

It is not simply a “call for an end to the ever-worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza” as council member Liz Walsh posted on her facebook page today. If that were the true purpose, the resolution would call for a return of hostages, the dismantling of Hamas, investigations into the Hamas infiltration of UNRWA which steals and diverts humanitarian aid, etc...A ceasefire (without the return of hostages, removal of Hamas and security assurances from allies) would only pave the way for further attempts in destroying Israel: more hostage killings, more rockets fired at Israel daily and repeating the massacre of October 7th over and over again. This is not hyperbole. This is what the Hamas leadership has promised and have demonstrated time after time. They have NO intention of discontinuing their attempt to destroy Israel and harm Jewish people around the world.

“We must teach Israel a lesson, and we will do it twice and three times. The Al-Aqsa Deluge is just the first time, and there will be a second, a third a fourth. Will we have to pay a price? Yes, and we are ready to pay it. We are called a nation of martyrs, and we are proud to sacrifice martyrs”. - Hamas Official Ghazi Hamad on 11/1/2023.

“October 7th was just a rehearsal” - Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar on 11/30/23

Despite Hamas breaking ceasefires in 2008, 2012, 2014, 2021 and most recently in 2023, they have also rejected a ceasefire deal last month and are positioned to reject another this week.

As Howard County Council members, what are you going to do to ensure that both parties abide by future ceasefire agreements? What are you going to do to protect Israeli citizens once they stop defending themselves and Hamas proceeds with another massacre? Another Intifada? Nothing, because this has nothing to do with the job of a county council member.

As your constitute, here’s what I would like you to do: find ways to address the HCPSS funding debt so 350 employees aren’t laid off and music programs aren’t removed. Find ways to reinstate school buses for the thousands of children who lost their bus service this year. Do literally anything that improves the lives of the people living here, in Howard

County. That most certainly does not include a purely symbolic resolution that stirs division, antisemitism, fear and anger throughout the community. In the meanwhile, I encourage all of you to reach out to Jewish leaders in Howard County to have an actual meaningful conversation about how this conflict and rise in anti-semitism globally has impacted our lives.

Thank you for your time
Jill Smulson

Respass, Charity

From: Dr. Joan Spicknall <director@suzukimusicsschool.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:23 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Dr. Joan Spicknall; 'Joan Spicknall'; Dr. Joan Spicknall
Subject: Register Against CR22-2024

Importance: High

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To whom it may concern:

I am registering my vote of opposition against an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. There needs to be an agreement on ALL sides to free the hostages Hamas is holding! NO CEASEFIE UNTIL TERMS ARE AGREED UPON!

I am a concerned Howard County resident and wish to be on a list to keep updated on this situation!

Thank you so much for your cooperation.

Dr. Joan Spicknall, Director
The Suzuki Music School of Maryland, Inc. (SMSMD)
The Suzuki Music School Touring Ensemble, Inc. (TSMSTE)
Summer Camps at Wilde Lake (SCWL)
PO Box 1284
Columbia, Maryland 21044
410-964-1983 (Phone)
410-964-1147 (Fax)
director@suzukimusicsschool.com
suzukimusicsschool1988@gmail.com
C: 443-538-4801

Respass, Charity

From: Joanna Maleh <maleh@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:14 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Ceasefire resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I wanted to explain to you how it felt for me to hear of CR22. Let me start by saying it, especially broke my heart, because I had previously felt seen and heard and cared for in Howard County. I considered myself on the progressive side. This resolution and related posts shook me to the core. Only a few weeks after the barbaric attack I was already reading posts from a Howard county official saying that Israel was committing a genocide without any outrage at the Hamas attack, a attack which actually was attempted genocide! I was incredulous! In fact, in the United States war on terror after 9/11, 12 civilians were killed for every one terrorist. In Israel's war against the terrorist group, Hamas, it is less than 2.5 civilians for every terrorists kill. Fighting a war against terrorists is a whole different ball game. Israel has gone above and beyond to minimize civilian casualties at their own expense.

I am Jewish. My mom was born the same year as Anne Frank. She was born in Czechoslovakia. We saw her preschool class in Prague at a museum exhibit in DC. I remember my mother saying that she was the only child still alive from her preschool class. The United States wasn't letting Jews in but thankfully my grandfather was able to get a graduate degree in Canada and bring his family to safety. We lost a lot of family in the Holocaust. The other side of my family escaped from Egypt when Egypt kicked them out because they were Jewish. All over the Middle East they kicked out anyone who was Jewish and took all their property. They came to this country with nothing selling chickens in the trains. I went to Eastern Europe this past year and saw for myself concentration camps, and also went to the holocaust museum a few weeks ago. This is all to say that I know I am especially sensitive to the rhetoric that is out there. And I am well aware how lies and propaganda begin to create a society that feels like killing Jews is OK, or at the very least, wants them to roll over and let themselves be killed by Hamas.

I also was old enough during 9/11 to understand terrorism. All of a sudden, the world didn't feel like a good place. My older daughter was born a month after 9/11. I was so scared for the world that she was born into... I was questioning my decision to bring a child into this world...and am even more scared now! I think if you weren't old enough to really feel September 11th, it might be a lot easier to believe that it was just a lie or wasn't so scary. It is hard for good people to comprehend and accept true evil.

Hamas is Isis to me. I can't imagine living so close to terrorists that vowed to commit these attacks again, and again, and again. Hamas is the government in Gaza. Their educational materials tell them to hate Jews at an early age. They sacrifice their kids because it makes them look good in the eyes of the progressive west. They actually have suicide vests for little kids. Their math problems at a very early age count number of dead Jews. The families actually put their kids in danger way so that they can be martyrs and so it will look bad for Israel. Hamas complains that Israelis care about life, but the Hamas ideology there is that it is better to be a martyr and die killing Jews and other infidels than to live.

I know there are a lot of lies and propaganda out there. None of the colonial, apartheid accusations are true of Israel. Jewish people have lived in Israel long before any Palestinians did. So much of the land in Israel is even

documented in the Old Testament. Most Israelis are people who were kicked out of the Middle East such as my family. 20% of Israelis are Arabs. Israeli Arabs also support this war. Israeli Arabs are doctors, lawyers, qualify for assistance, and even have a political party and are represented in the Israeli government. Israel has been out of Gaza since 2005. They are not occupied by Israel. Maybe if they were, they would've been prepared for this attack and known about the miles and miles of tunnels underground. There are also not readily allowed into Israel, because they have the history of killing Israelis. Suicide bombers are the norm. Egypt is just as afraid of letting Gaza civilians in to their country. If you think Israel occupies Gaza, then Egypt definitely does as well. That is why no other country wanted to let the Gaza civilians in to keep them safe. It would endanger their countries as well. Hamas is dangerous to all. There is no land issue. Palestinians just don't want Israel to exist! Before Netanyahu, the land was offered to them many times.

I believe that rape is never resistance. It especially broke my heart because Hamas gang raped girls that are my daughter's' ages...kids who were just hanging out at a music festival. They even raped 13 and 14 year-old girls at a sleepover hanging out in their own bedroom. We have also heard that many of the female hostages are being continuously raped. These hostages are probably pregnant. Israel has already amended its constitution to allow an abortion for these hostages if they are returned... even though it's been over the normal three month period allowed for an abortion.

When you ask for Israel to have a ceasefire without asking for Hamas to ceasefire, It feels like antisemitism. You're basically asking for Israel to roll over and die and live in fear. When you condemn Israel, but not Hamas, it feels like antisemitism. When you don't ask for the hostages to be released, it feels like antisemitism. I have to say I've been crying every day since October 7. I've been astounded at the world. I am fearful for my life and I'm beginning to realize that anti-Semitism is very real and is rampant in Howard County. I just can't believe the lies that people are willing to believe and the anti-Semitism that is inherent in them that allows them to believe the lies and propaganda.

At the Howard County vigil after October 7, a Muslim group of Howard county was absolutely wonderful in helping out with the vigil for the Jewish Community. I naively had hope that maybe we could all work together to get rid of Hamas. I know we are not all reading the same articles, or watching the same news programs. And I do believe TikTok is responsible for so much of the misinformation. And I do believe that a lot of the information coming out of the terrorist group Hamas is not to be trusted. As a society, we all need to work together to find the truth. I believe the more you look into the conflict, the more you will agree that Hamas should no longer be in power and Israel is fighting a justified war. CR 22 does not build bridges, but rips our community apart. I believe we all have the same enemy - terrorism and fake news! Islamophobia is a real thing and it is not fair that peaceful loving Muslims are judged because of these terrorists.

Is it absolutely horrible that any innocent Gazan civilian died? Absolutely. I hate it. Especially the innocent children. Israel accepted Egypt's proposal to ceasefire and end the war. Hamas didn't. Hamas broke the cease-fire of October 6th. Hamas also broke the last cease-fire because it did not want to return the young women hostages that were being raped. It is very difficult to bargain with terrorists that want you dead. I absolutely want a cease-fire too... but I also want the poor innocent Israeli hostages returned and I do not want anyone to have to suffer again at the hands of Hamas. This includes Gaza civilians. They deserve to actually receive the assistance that comes to them, they deserve to be protected by their government and not used for martyrdom. I have no doubt that Hamas is responsible for more of the civilian deaths than the IDF, as they put their civilians in harms way and do not allow them to escape to safety. I dream that one day all of the children in Gaza dream of becoming doctors and lawyers, and not martyrs. I dream that one day they learn to love their children more than they hate the Jews. I believe that without Hamas, and with the help of moderate Islamic countries, there is hope! I believe someday that the Jews in Israel and the Palestinians will be allowed to easily walk through each others lands.... But only if we get rid of Hamas and terrorism.

If you are at all inclined to vote for the resolution. Promise me first you will watch The horror show from the October 7 attack. It is out there for you to watch. It really happened. Babies were burned alive. Yes, kids were beheaded. Middle school age girls were raped. Hamas soldiers called their moms after killing Jews so proud and then helped themselves to the refrigerator. The Hamas soldiers who orchestrated the attack are sociopaths. There is no other word for them as

you watch the pride on their faces as they kill the innocents. This terrorism has to end. It is not going to stop with just the Jews.

I know I'm part of the older generation now. The generation that was already an adult on September 11th. The generation that knows terrorism is real and how scary it really is. Over 80% of those who are 65 and over say they support Israel in the war. My kids are in college. I don't need to stay here for Howard County schools. I pay property taxes and state taxes. But I don't require a lot from the county or state in terms of school or other services. I am in the group that will leave Howard County if such a resolution is passed. We would not feel welcome here anymore. I've been in shock every day since October 7. Please help restore some of my faith in this county, the country and the world and do not approve CR 22.

Thank you for considering my words,
Johanna Maleh

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

Respass, Charity

From: Joanne H. <joanneheisel1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:14 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Written Testimony for CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Joanne Heisel. I am 73 years old and a resident of Howard County for more than 20 years. I moved to this county in part because of its cultural, religious and racial mix as well as its reputation for being an open-minded and compassionate community.

I am testifying on behalf of CR22-2024 because I strongly believe that a ceasefire in Gaza is in the interests of not only the people of Gaza but the entire human race. And I don't feel this is an exaggeration.

If we as a community cannot bring ourselves to call for the end of what many people around the world, including myself, believe is clearly a case of genocide, how can we call ourselves civilized people? How can we sit back and watch hundreds of thousands of Palestinians -- mostly women, children and elderly people -- being ruthlessly killed, horrifically maimed, rendered homeless, and starved to death?!?

Can you imagine children having to undergo amputations without anesthesia!? Hundreds of thousands of people are running from town to town because there is no place in Gaza that is safe from the bombing! Gazans are literally starving to death -- having to eat grass and drink filthy water in the hopes of surviving another day! Women are giving birth in alleyways with not even clean water available! Thousands are having to share one toilet!

I am begging you to show your humanity and call for a ceasefire in Gaza. It is the very least we as a community can do as a gesture of our compassion for those who are suffering beyond anything I for one can possibly imagine!!

Thank you,
Joanne Heisel
5633-C Harpers Farm Rd.
Columbia 20144
410-660-5148

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Joanne H. <joanneheisel1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:25 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Fwd: Written Testimony for CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Liz Walsh,

Below is a copy of the written testimony I submitted to the HoCo County Council in support of your resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. I also want to THANK YOU so much for having the integrity and courage to bring that resolution to the Council. (Something so clearly right should not take courage, but in this case I know it does.) I am grateful to you for that!

Joanne H.
Columbia

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Joanne H.** <joanneheisel1@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Feb 2, 2024 at 5:14 PM
Subject: Written Testimony for CR22-2024
To: <councilmail@howardcountymd.gov>

My name is Joanne Heisel. I am 73 years old and a resident of Howard County for more than 20 years. I moved to this county in part because of its cultural, religious and racial mix as well as its reputation for being an open-minded and compassionate community.

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If we as a community cannot bring ourselves to call for the end of what many people around the world, including myself, believe is clearly a case of genocide, how can we call ourselves civilized people? How can we sit back and watch hundreds of thousands of Palestinians -- mostly women, children and elderly people -- being ruthlessly killed, horrifically maimed, rendered homeless, and starved to death?!?

Can you imagine children having to undergo amputations without anesthesia!? Hundreds of thousands of people are running from town to town because there is no place in Gaza that is safe from the bombing! Gazans are literally starving to death -- having to eat grass and drink filthy water in the hopes of surviving another day! Women are giving

birth in alleyways with not even clean water available! Thousands are having to share one toilet!

I am begging you to show your humanity and call for a ceasefire in Gaza. It is the very least we as a community can do as a gesture of our compassion for those who are suffering beyond anything I for one can possibly imagine!!

Thank you,
Joanne Heisel
5633-C Harpers Farm Rd.
Columbia 20144
410-660-5148

Respass, Charity

From: Jonathan Hunger <jonathan.hunger@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:35 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Members of the Howard County Council,

Please vote against Resolution CR22-2024. It is deceptively one-sided and does not specifically condemn the murderous rampage against Israel on 10/7/23. Nor does it call for the release of hostages.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very respectfully,

Jonathan Hunger

Respass, Charity

From: Jon Kipnis <jon.kipnis@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:51 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Members of the Howard County Council:

I am writing to you today to ask that you **vote no** for Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024 that demands an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calls upon the Biden administration to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urges certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

If the United States was invaded by a neighboring (or any) country or terrorist group and our citizens killed and taken hostage, I would hope that none of you would introduce or support any type of resolution containing terms and demands similar to those incorporated in CR22-2024, including the demanding of a cease fire while hostages are being held. Why would you possibly demand such a cease-fire of Israel?

While support of a resolution that requires Hamas to lay down their arms and free the hostages, in return for a cease fire, would potentially be more reasonable and supportable, CR22, as written, should be soundly defeated.

I urge you to vote no to Resolution CR22-2024!

Jonathan I. Kipnis
Resident of District 4

Respass, Charity

From: Jonathan Weiner <jtw@marylandchina.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:18 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote AGAINST CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like all members of the County Council to vote against CR22-2024. Israel has a right to defend itself after suffering a terrorist attack and must eliminate Hamas from Gaza. This resolution is anti-semitic in that it does not specifically condemn Hamas for killing, attacking, kidnapping, assaulting and raping innocent civilians. Hamas is a terrorist organization that operates and hides among a civilian population, using the people of Gaza as human shields. The resulting bloodshed in Gaza is on the hands of these terrorists and the County Council should have the decency to state this if they are going to use their time drafting and passing these types of resolutions.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Weiner
Clarksville, MD

Respass, Charity

From: Joshua Sunshine <jshiny8@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:45 AM
To: Ball, Calvin; Jung, Debra; CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: OPPOSITION to Resolution CR 22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the Honorable Members of the Howard County Council and County Executive Calvin Ball,

My name is Joshua Neuman-Sunshine and I live in Columbia, Maryland. My wife and I have two children and have lived in Howard County for more than 15 years, though we were born and raised in Montgomery County. I, like many of your constituents, am reaching out to you about CR22-2024. **This resolution MUST not pass.**

I am an educator of 23 years, all in Montgomery County. I received my B.A. in History and Near Eastern and Judaic Studies from Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. I went on to teach public high school for 6 years, teaching history of course. United States History, Ancient History, World History, Government, Economics, and Comparative Religions before moving into school administration where I am still today. I coached our high school debate team, including two individual county champions and five top three teams in six years. One of my very best students, and debaters was a devout Muslim, born of Iraqi and Pakistani heritage. He went on to study at Maryland and became president of the fraternity AEPI, a Jewish founded, and Jewish sponsored organization, and the same fraternity in fact that I joined many years prior while attending Brandeis. He went on to become a political analyst serving many political candidates, including a presidential candidate. In doing so, he has also appeared on many cable TV networks including CNN, MSNBC, and Fox. He serves on a number of different councils and initiatives seeking peaceful solutions in the Middle East, climate, local politics and local education. Why is this former student important to my story? He and I are close friends and have stayed in touch. He cares deeply, and passionately for both Palestinians and Israelis. He understands, like I do, that there is suffering across the board. We agree that a two-state solution is needed. We agree that Hamas is a terrorist organization that only seeks to destroy the state of Israel and kill ALL Jewish people. We also agree that Hamas does not represent all of the Palestinian people living in the Gaza Strip or the West Bank. We agree that too many people have died, both Israeli and Palestinian. We agree that horrible atrocities were committed against Israeli women, children, men, the elderly, and those who could not fight back. Holocaust survivors who managed to escape the horrors of Nazi death camps only to become imprisoned once again, or killed by Hamas. We both agree that there can be no peace until ALL Israeli and foreign hostages, including Americans, are freed from Hamas captivity. We agree that there can be no peace until Hamas no longer controls the Gaza Strip or the plight of the Palestinian

people. We both agree that Hamas has spent hundreds of millions of dollars on creating a tunnel system (with which to hide hostages, move around weapons, missiles and terror cells), acquiring missiles and rockets from Iran, when spending little, if any money on their own people. We both agree that Israel will need to eventually remove itself entirely from the Gaza Strip, but only once ALL the hostages have been freed. We agree that Israelis and Palestinians deserve to live in peace, free of terror and the horrors of war.

Israel and the Jewish people did NOT start this war. In a country far smaller than the United States, Israelis suffered more casualties from October 7th than the United States suffered on 9/11, many times over. After 9/11, the United States went to war in Afghanistan and Iraq, toppled governments and spent years trying to destroy terrorist infrastructures. Israel has been in Gaza for less than four months trying to destroy the terrorist infrastructure of Hamas. The Palestinians have suffered profound losses, as have the Israeli and Jewish People. It should be all of our hopes, mine, yours included that the hostages are freed expeditiously, and a sustained peace can return to Israeli and Gaza, hopefully permanently.

CR22-2024 is a blatant attempt to deny Israel's right to exist. CR22-2024 fails to mention the horrific acts of October 7th. The brutal rapes of women and children, torture, murder, executions, and kidnapping to name a few. CR22-2024 fails to mention the more than 1,200 Israelis (including Americans) who were killed on October 7th. CR22-2024 fails to mention that 240 hostages were taken by Hamas and over 130 remain. There can be no permanent ceasefire until ALL hostages are freed and returned safely to their loved ones. **In summary, CR22-2024 is antisemitic and should be denounced and rejected wholeheartedly.**

Howard County is a wonderful place to live and raise our children. Before October 7th, it was always a warm, inviting place for all Jews to reside. But antisemitism is rampant since October 7th. DO NOT give into the hate and fear mongering by those who fail to recognize Israel's right to exist. Or that the Jewish people all over the world and especially here in Howard County have faith in their elected leaders to protect and serve without prejudice.

Please, please. CR22-2024 MUST NOT PASS. Passage of CR22-2024 is the end of Howard County as we know it. You don't have to be a former history teacher like I was to know the phrase "HISTORY WILL JUDGE YOU."

Thank you for your time and commitment to your constituents, and to all of Howard County in this perilous time.

Sincerely,

Josh Neuman-Sunshine
6417 River Run
Columbia, Maryland 21044

Anderson, Isaiah

From: jwgart@verizon.net
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:46 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To Liz Walsh,

I am writing you in regards to County Council Resolution CR22-2024. I want to voice my extreme disappointment with you for proposing this short-sided, one-sided resolution. As my representative on the City Council, I am very upset that you have proposed this very one-sided resolution.

Nowhere in this resolution does it address that Israel was attacked by a terrorist organization, Hamas.

It also does not address that there are still Israeli Hostages that were taken captive when Israel was attacked. No where in this resolution are you asking for the release of these hostages as a part of the cease-fire.

No where in this resolution do you acknowledge Israel's right to exist in the Middle East or the country's right to defend itself.

My questions for you is : Did you condemn the USA when it engaged in a 20 year war after the World Trade Centers were attacked by terrorist on 9 11? Or recently when USA defended itself after Houthi rebels attacked USA interests in the Middle East? Why are you looking so differently at Israel's right to defend itself?

Yes, I am saddened by the loss of life in Gaza but the country is governed by terrorists who do not have a regard for Human Life and will hide out in schools and in hospitals. They do not want peace with Israel and have vowed to wipe out Israel from the Jordan to the sea.

Next question: Have you looked at a map of the Middle East? Israel is a very small country in compared to all of its Arab neighbor states. Israel gave up some of its land to try to have peace in this little sliver of the Middle East but Gaza is run by terrorists who do not want peace and send rockets toward Israel. As long as Gaza is run by terrorists, there will never be true peace in the Middle East and the USA's interest will be at risk.

I would be in support of a resolution that that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire. Please reconsider the language of your resolution or withdraw it as it is currently written.

Sincerely

Judy Gartner

Resident of Ellicott City, MD

Respass, Charity

From: jwgart@verizon.net
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:52 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To Members of the City Council:

I am writing you in regards to County Council Resolution CR22-2024. I want to urge you to vote against this resolution as it is very one-sided and short-sided.

Nowhere in this resolution does it address that Israel was attacked by a terrorist organization, Hamas.

It also does not address that there are still Israeli Hostages that were taken captive when Israel was attacked. No where in this resolution are you asking for the release of these hostages as a part of the cease-fire.

No where in this resolution do you acknowledge Israel's right to exist in the Middle East or the country's right to defend itself.

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Yes I am saddened by the loss of life in Gaza but the country is governed by terrorists who do not have a regard for Human Life and will hide out in schools and in hospitals. They do not want peace with Israel and have vowed to wipe out Israel from the Jordan to the sea.

Next question: Have you looked at a map of the Middle East? Israel is a very small country in compared to all of it's Arab neighbor states. Israel gave up some of its land to try to have peace in this little sliver of the Middle East but Gaza is run by terrorists who do not want peace and send rockets toward Israel. As long as Gaza is run by terrorists, there will never be true peace in the Middle East and the USA's interest will be at risk.

I would be in support of a resolution that that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire.

Again I urge you to vote against this resolution as it is currently written.

Sincerely

Judy Gartner

Resident of Ellicott City, MD 21042

Respass, Charity

From: Kate Julia Benjamin <katebenjamin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:39 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Against CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council,

Please vote against CR22-2024. There was a ceasefire as of October 6 and Hamas broke it. This terrorist group has slaughtered, raped and beheaded innocent civilians. There are still over 100 hostages in Gaza. No ceasefire until hostages are returned to their families. We are dealing with terrorists. If we do nothing they will continue as they promise to kill as many Jews as possible, and they say America is next. Thank you for not supporting this antisemitic and anti- American bill.

Sincerely,
Kate Benjamin
Clarksville, MD

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Respass, Charity

From: Kathryn Painter <kathrynpainter@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:38 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: In opposition to CR22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Kathryn Painter,

A non-Jewish community member in District 5 in Howard County. (Not that that should matter)
I vehemently **oppose CR22** and ask that the county council vote it down.

We need to stay in our lane COUNTY and focus on what we can control right here.

You are making fractures already there worse in our community and asking for violence here. Please stop.

Thank you,

Kathryn Painter
Brand Partner
PaperPie
www.BooksandLearning.com

Respass, Charity

From: Larry Gordon <elgee57@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:33 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to you today to ask that you **vote no** for Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024 that demands an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calls upon the Biden administration to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urges certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

I support a resolution that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire.

Please vote no to Res CR22-2024! Thank you for your consideration.

Larry Gordon

Respass, Charity

From: Laura Halsor <lshalsor@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:17 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Laura Halsor
Subject: CR-22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the Howard County Council:

I agree with the humanitarian need to a ceasefire in Gaza. However, one important part of the humanitarian situation is the continued holding of Israeli hostages.

We strongly feel, and respectfully request that the release of Israeli hostages be included in CR22-2024.

Thank you for considering our request.

Laura and Jack Halsor
35 year loyal Joward Cointy Residents

Respass, Charity

From: Lauren Frey <ladybug4656@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:14 PM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Antisemitism in Howard County - PLEASE Oppose CR22 !

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Lauren Frey, I live in District 5 in Howard County. **I oppose CR22 and ask that the county council vote it down.**

I hope that if we unite together now, local leaders and politicians will respect our voices and values, and in the future help us in our fight against antisemitism.

I've pasted my brief note below, if you'd like to understand more clearly why this resolution is harmful for the Jewish Community of Howard county and beyond.

Thank you,
Lauren Frey

To the members of the Howard County Council & County Executive Calvin Ball,

I am writing to you today to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the Resolution (CR 22-2024) introduced by Councilmember Walsh.

The heart of my opposition to CR 22-2024 is that the resolution calls for an unconditional ceasefire.

- There is no mention for the immediate release of the 130+ hostages (or remains of hostages) still being held in Gaza by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other associated terror groups.
- This ceasefire resolution also appears to be a one-sided ceasefire, which pins the blame for the devastating loss of innocent civilian life in Gaza and Israel solely on the actions of the State of Israel. There is zero mention of the deliberate and calculated tactics of Hamas that make them responsible for substantial percentages of the civilian deaths that have occurred throughout Israel's war on Hamas. When presenting a resolution only calling for one side, in this case Israel, to put their arms down, think about what you are actually calling for- Hamas has repeatedly vowed to conduct attacks worse than October 7th again and again. Passing a resolution for Israel to ceasefire unconditionally is putting rhetoric into play that gives permission & acceptance for Hamas to continue carrying out these vile attacks.

The decision to consciously omit these points from the resolution presents as a deliberate decision to erase the existence and legitimacy of the lives of these hostages and, since I am being frank here, creates deeper

divisions between people who genuinely care for one another, and who may have deeply divergent assessments of the Israel-Hamas war. No good comes from the introduction of this deeply flawed resolution.

Our hearts break for the civilian population of Gaza who are unsupportive of Hamas. I pray for their liberation from this brutal terror group. I also pray for peace and the end of suffering of ALL innocent civilians who have been thrust into this war.

I vehemently reject this resolution and am ONLY in favor of strides to help heal the divisions that this resolution has already caused.

Sincerely,

Lauren Frey

Respass, Charity

From: Laurie Diener <diener.lauren@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:54 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution (CR22-2024)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To Our Elected Council Officials:

I am asking that this Resolution (CR22-2024) regarding a cease fire in Gaza not be passed as written. We do not believe that it is the role of our Council members to take a position on this matter.

The Resolution in its present format is not representative of Howard County citizens and completely disregards the atrocities of October 7.

We request withdrawal of this resolution.

Respectfully,
Laurie Diener
Steven H. Diener, M.D.

Laurie Diener

Respass, Charity

From: lgreenfeld@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:38 PM
To: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: County Council Resolution CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To: The Honorable Members of the Howard County Council

We have been residents of Howard County for more than 50 years and have been close observers and contributors to Council issues over that period. We both have been involved in a variety of community organizations and activities designed to assist those in need and Ms. Greenfeld retired after many years of serving students at the Community College.

The above-noted proposed Council resolution represents a major departure for the Council in terms of expressing a particular point of view on both foreign policy and international relations. For this reason and others we are opposed to this Resolution. The Resolution fails to mention the hostages being held by Hamas and the need to release all hostages. There is no acknowledgement in the Resolution of the continuing firing of missiles from Gaza into Israeli cities, which has been going on for many years predating 10/7. There is no recognition of Iran's role in fueling this war with armaments and logistical support for Hamas acts of terrorism against Israeli citizens. There is no fact statement on the source for the numbers of deceased Gazans, most of whom are likely to have been Hamas terrorists or civilians placed in jeopardy by Hamas.

Israel has a population of about 10 million. About 25% of the population is composed of Muslims, Christians, and Druze. Among the Muslim population, 12% are Bedouin who are strong supporters of Israel's response to Hamas terrorism and serve in the Israeli military. Among Arab citizens of Israel, more than 70%, in the most recent poll following the October 7 terrorist attack, said they identify as Israelis, the highest such finding ever reported (Reuters, November 10, 2023).

We strongly hope you will reject this Resolution as it unfairly places the burden on Israel without any effort to require recognition of Hamas as the perpetrator of the massacre of innocent men, women, and children on October 7 and their long history of terrorist acts. Please keep in mind that the terrorist attack of October 7 resulted in the murder of the equivalent of what would have been 50,000 persons in the U.S. or about 17 times the number who died on 9/11/2001 in the U.S. This was a major attack on a sovereign nation by a recognized terrorist organization and defending itself from such attacks is an existential responsibility. The Resolution essentially legitimizes an organization identified by the U.S. as a foreign terrorist organization since 1997 (U.S. Department of State, Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations). With many diverse views on the Resolution in Howard County, we think it inappropriate to consider before extensive research, analysis, historical context, opinion, and appropriateness for a resolution are incorporated into any proposal on this subject.

Sincerely,

Lawrence A. Greenfeld

Barbara C. Greenfeld

10617 Glass Tumbler Path

Columbia, MD 21044

Respass, Charity

From: Leigh Cohen <leighcohen813@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:17 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: NO to CR 22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Leigh Cohen. I live in District 4 in Howard County, with family in Israel. I urge you to vote NO on CR 22-2024. Most notably, this resolution does not call for a bilateral ceasefire or condition the release of the hostages. Hamas is a terrorist organization. CR22-2024 is a direct attack on the Jewish community of Howard county. I urge you to reject this resolution.

Sincerely,
Leigh Cohen

Respass, Charity

From: Lilia Kaplan-Robbins <liliakaplanrobbins@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:23 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote AGAINST CR-22-2024.

Lilia Kaplan-Robbins

Respass, Charity

From: Linda Field <lindafield06@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:30 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council Members:

I strongly support the right of Israel to exist as a free and democratic home for the Jewish people and its other citizens. Regarding **CR22-2024**, I would only support a resolution that calls for a ceasefire for all parties that is conditioned on the immediate release of all of the hostages taken by Hamas and Islamic Jihad. None of these conditions for a ceasefire are included in the proposed resolution. Therefore, I urge you to vote against this resolution as it is written.

The Son of Hamas (son of the founder of Hamas) spoke at the University of Michigan to try to tackle antisemitism on college campuses. Having grown up in Gaza, he now denounces and exposes the Hamas "Holy War" to "wipe out the Jews".

Please take time to watch these videos.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpnvUlcvNUe>

And at the UN:

<https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k11/k119r4joso>

Thank you!

Linda Field
9501 Sweet Grass Ridge
Columbia MD 21046

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video 'Son of Hamas' Tackles University Antisemitism, Exposes Hamas 'Holy War' to Wipe Out Jews





Respass, Charity

From: lindaleslie@verizon.net
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:13 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support Resolution 22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to vote in support of resolution 22-2024 calling for a ceasefire in the Gaza-Israel war.

I am sure you will be hearing from a lot of folks who for one reason or another don't think this bill should be passed. Some of them will argue about the wording, and let's be honest, getting the wording right in this situation is impossible. Others will feel like it is not appropriate or effective for a small county in a small state to be calling for this action. Why would anyone listen to us?

My opinion in this case is that we should not let the perfect be the enemy of the good. I am old enough to remember the anti-apartheid movement against South Africa, and I understand that small imperfect actions can be the beginning of larger actions that will eventually bring positive change. And perhaps more importantly, this resolution will show our neighbors here in Howard County that we see their pain and care to do something about it.

With that in mind, I do have two proposed changes to the resolution. One would be to call out more clearly the condemnation of terrorism and kidnapping in the first portion of the resolution. The second would be to add Congressman Andy Harris to the list of individuals to receive a copy of this resolution. I don't see why you would leave him off if you are including every other congressional representative in Maryland.

Thanks for your time and thank you to Councilmember Walsh for introducing this resolution.

Linda Lamppert
Council District 4

Respass, Charity

From: Lisa Krausz <lisalkrausz@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:24 PM
To: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Reject CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Members,

Greetings. Like many in the county, I have been alerted to Councilmember Walsh's proposed resolution calling on Israel to instigate an immediate and unconditional cease-fire in Gaza, CR22-2024, which will be coming to a vote on Monday night, February 5th.

I am confused that the resolution was put forth, and I am shocked that it is coming to a vote this Monday night!

The Howard County Council is proposing to pass a resolution to call on Israel to implement an immediate and unconditional cease fire on what basis? What is the rational for imposing such a position on an exceedingly complicated geo-political issue and region of which the council knows how much? Has a committee been established to study this issue in greater detail from a range of perspectives? Has any time been taken to deeply examine this situation before such an unequivocal, one-sided resolution is passed? Has the county council done its due diligence in hearing from Jewish leaders and lay people as well as those who support Israel?

I don't recall that any such work has been undertaken.

Moreover, has there been a resolution put forth to denounce Hamas and denounce the terrorist attack on October 7th and that calls for the release of the remaining hostages?

I don't recall that any such resolutions were proposed.

This is a poorly conceived resolution that only serves to divide our community and to sow seeds of misunderstanding and, unfortunately, possibly even hate.

This resolution creates a uni-dimensional, simplified disservice to all who care about creating true and lasting peace in the Middle East and to the diasporas living abroad, and it only exacerbates misunderstandings here in our own county.

From the perspective of those who support Israel's need to destroy Hamas' underground network of military tunnels and the need to retrieve the remaining hostages, calling for an immediate and unconditional cease fire is emphatically unfair to the families whose loved ones were brutally and gleefully murdered and kidnapped on October 7th, and to those who feel their loss and pain; it

represents the worst pogrom since the Holocaust. It also ignores the many efforts made by Israel to create lasting peace with Gaza and to expand Gaza's freedom. It's vitally important to understand the many truths of the complicated history and relationship between Israel and Gaza and Palestinians and the rest of the Middle East when examining these issues and proposing resolutions.

This history is critical to understanding the context of Israel needing to defend itself against terrorist attacks. Taking action without further examination of this multi-faceted history is also incredibly unfair to the complexity of the situation unfolding in the Middle East, whose many actors have contributed to the geo-political landscape.

If the council votes to support this resolution, it will lose credibility with Howard County voters, and councilmembers will lose credibility for rushing headstrong into an exceedingly complicated, arduous and painful situation that requires education on all sides.

Rather than passing a resolution for an immediate and unconditional cease fire, the County Council's time, if they care, would be far better spent, establishing a group or committee (or efforts) for cross cultural dialogue for those seeking lasting solutions for peace in the Middle East for Israel, Gaza and it's neighbors.

I urge you to reject this poorly thought-out resolution. The county would be better served by efforts to strengthen our community, rather than divide it, which is exactly what the proposition of this resolution is doing.

We need to do better than that.

Sincerely,

Lisa Krausz

Respass, Charity

From: Lorijean <lorijean81@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:25 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution No. 22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Council persons,

I find the current version of this resolution woefully insufficient. The very first WHERAS states: all human life is precious. I agree, therefore I wonder:

- where is the statement to CONDEMN the Hamas terrorist attacks on October 7, 2023 which killed over 1,200 civilians, while raping and kidnapping others? And let's not forget that some of those hostages died while captive and over 130 remain captive.
- where is the statement to CONDEMN Hamas' cowardly hiding behind the people of Gaza and intentionally putting them in harm's way? Hamas shares the responsibility for the high civilian death count in Gaza over the past almost 4 months.
- where is the statement calling for the release of ALL remaining hostages in COMBINATION with a cease fire?

These points are crucial for a fuller picture of the situation and should be included in this resolution. Without them, this resolution should be voted down.

I send this as a lifelong protestant, and I thank you for your time.

Lorijean Turner
Tamar Dr
21045

Respass, Charity

From: Williams, China
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:29 AM
To: Anderson, Isaiah
Subject: FW: CR22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Zilber <ludazilber@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:40 AM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Lyudmila Zilber and I live in District 4, in Howard County. I oppose CR22 and ask that the county council vote it down. CR22 will only further divide our community and serves no benefit to the residents of Howard County. I strongly support the right of Israel to exist as a free and democratic home for the Jewish people AND its other citizens. I would only support a resolution if it called for a ceasefire for ALL parties that is conditioned on the immediate release of all of the hostages taken by Hamas and Islamic Jihad. I am writing today to express my view on CR22 and ask that you vote against its passage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lyudmila Zilber

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Madiha Rehman <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:56 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident and student of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Madiha Rehman
madorani7@gmail.com
3452 Walker Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Respass, Charity

From: Manar Dajani <manar.i.dajani@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:59 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024- Ceasefire resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

I am emailing to ask the council to support the ceasefire resolution. I have personally lost more than 100 members of my family and friends in Gaza. The rest are now homeless, living on the streets in Gaza, slowly starving to death. We need an immediate ceasefire now! The more voices that speak up, the harder it is to ignore.

thank you,

--

Manar Dajani
manar.i.dajani@gmail.com
443-878-2826

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Marcie Cissell <marciecissell@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:34 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Fwd: Opposition to Liz Walsh's Ceasefire Resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Marcie Cissell <marciecissell@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 11:07 PM
Subject: Opposition to Liz Walsh's Ceasefire Resolution
To: <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>

Dear Mr. Yungmann,

As a taxpayer and resident of Clarksville, I am appalled by the one-sided content of Liz Walsh's Ceasefire Resolution and the Council's attempt to fast track its passage. The Jewish people have fought for a peaceful existence since the beginning of time. However, historically this never seems to be in the cards. With this most recent TERRORIST attack on the people of Israel, we are once again being vilified and blamed for a war we did not begin. Where is the condemnation of Hamas, Hezbollah and all of the other funded terrorist groups whose main goal is the extermination of the Jewish people? Where is the language in Liz Walsh's Resolution demanding the release of the remaining hostages? In case the Council has forgotten on October 7th, Hamas murdered, tortured and kidnapped over 1000 innocent Jewish men, women and children.

I may be naive, however, weren't you and your colleagues voted into office to support the people and business of Howard County? Why is the Israeli-Hamas conflict even on the agenda of the County Council? HCPSS has already done their part in allowing one-sided "peaceful" walk-outs during the school day, setting up divisions in our high schools. Perhaps our local government officials should stay in their lane, reject this resolution and get back into the business of reuniting the residents of Howard County.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Marcie Cissell

Respass, Charity

From: denumblue@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:18 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote Against CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Councilmembers,

Please consider voting against CR 22-2024. The ramifications of this request are clearly not well-understood. This request for humanitarian support is a lovely and respectable idea, at face value. But fails to calculate the benefit to Hamas to continue hiding out, holding hostages, restocking weapons from Iranian sponsors, and using Palestinian civilians a shields for their terrorist activities.

A ceasefire is EXACTLY what Hamas wants and serves not to help the Palestinian victims, but the terrorists who perpetrated these horrible events and created the situation to begin with.

As a concerned citizen, I urge you to vote no.

Sincerely,
Marla Paper

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Mazen Abu Ghazaleh <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:50 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Mazen Abu Ghazaleh
mazenjehadme+howardthing@gmail.com
8807 Mirror Lake Way
Laurel, Maryland 20723

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Mehwish Karim <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:49 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Mehwish Karim
mkarim585@yahoo.com
7414 Haven Ct
Highland, Maryland 20777

Respass, Charity

From: Melissa Hoffman Lean <melissa.h.lean@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:26 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: No to CR22-2024. Please see body of email.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024. I am absolutely without any question in pain for all of the lives lost in the middle east, regardless of nationality or culture. Demanding a ceasefire without stipulations lacks nuance, and fails to account for the demand for a ceasefire in Israel as well. If everyone lays down their weapons, it's the only way for peace. Asking for a nation to not defend itself when innocent babies women and men have been stolen is not the answer. So, in short, I'm asking that this legislation be shut down and edited to be more thoughtful and inclusive of language for a ceasefire in gaza AND israel.

Have a peaceful weekend!

--

Melissa Hoffman Lean, Psy.D.

Respass, Charity

From: MELVIN KLEIN <melklein2@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:53 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Proposed Resolution on Gaza

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

We are writing to express concern about the proposed Howard County Council resolution on the situation in Israel and Gaza. As we understand that the proposed resolution calls for an unconditional cease fire without regard to the continued holding of hostages by Hamas and the continued presence of the Hamas fighters in Gaza. Hamas has explicitly announced their intention to continue to attack innocent Israelis. This one-sided resolution does not propose any way of ameliorating these situations. Certainly the loss of life on both sides is concerning, but the proposed resolution does not address the plight of the hostages or the threatened continued attacks by Hamas.

We also question the propriety of a local government body involving itself in foreign policy. We have enough issues for the Council to address without inserting itself in a Federal Government function. All this does is create divisions in our community.

We hope that the Council tables the resolution as an ill-advised and divisive intrusion in the appropriate province of the National Government.

Anderson, Isaiah

From: michael <bionlaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:35 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Resolution No. 22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council Member,

Thank you for considering my views on the Resolution No. 22-2024, now pending for consideration by Howard County's Council. I urge you not to pass the resolution.

I. Resolution 22-2024 is incomplete and thus inaccurate as to positions held by federal officials; it fails to demand hostage's release and elimination of Hamas. 22-2024 makes an assertion that "Congressmen Mfume and Raskin, and Senator Van Hollen have called for an immediate ceasefire." But, that is untrue in context. Here is what else they said, and which Resolution 22-2024 fails to say:

Raskin, <https://raskin.house.gov/2024/1/congressman-raskin-renews-calls-for-the-release-of-hostages-bilateral-ceasefire-and-humanitarian-surge-in-gaza>: "The world must urgently prioritize immediate return of the hostages, a complete bilateral ceasefire, the removal of the Hamas terrorists from operational control of Gaza, the end of the bombardment of the civilian population, and a global humanitarian surge of food, water, medical supplies and power to the besieged Gazan population."

Note, 22-2024 does not call for return of the hostages or the removal of the Hamas terrorists from operational control of Gaza ...

Van Hollen's office sent a statement to 11 News, saying: "Like many across our state, I was horrified by Hamas' despicable attacks and kidnappings that took place Oct. 7. Since then, I have supported Israel's right to defend itself and its objective of ending the military threat posed by Hamas." <https://www.wbalte.com/article/baltimore-protest-ceasefire-letter-israel-hamas-war/46179102>

Mfume, <https://twitter.com/RepKweisiMfume/status/1722370744397492557>: "Like many, I am not a cosponsor of H.Res. 786 because it fails to call out by name the Hamas terrorist organization for the death and destruction they initiated on October 7." 22-2024 also does not call out Hamas for its atrocities, does not call for dismantling of Hamas, and does not call for release of hostages. Please note, 3 out of 4 first paragraphs of 22-2024 are exact copies of HR 786. Significantly, the US House buried HR786, by sending it to a Committee, nearly four months ago. We expect similar fate for the copycat Resolution 22-2024.

II Actions by the US and Israel are justified.

There are good reasons why U.S. is supportive of Israel's fight for its existence. U.S. and Israel have been close allies since Israel's inception. US sees in Israel a democratic nation, pulling itself by its bootstraps, despite relentless attack. Arab Palestinians murdered Jews in repeated pogroms, since at least 1920. Leading Palestinian Arabs had supported the Nazis, seeing an opportunity to cleanse Arab lands of Jews. This continues today, and Hamas' actions are a leading example. US actions re Gaza war are proper, moral and in US' self-interest.

Hamas is acting with bestiality. On October 7, 2023, Israeli and civilians of other countries, including USA citizens, were raped, kidnapped and killed. Hamas killed and kidnapped babies and old people. Hamas planned and indulged in bestiality of inhumane proportions, committing atrocities at close range, person to person. Hamas embedded itself in Gaza's civilian infrastructure and continues to use both Israeli hostages and Palestinian civilians as a shield. Hamas has fired rockets into Israel before and after October 7. It largely is not targeting military assets, but targeting to kill Jews. My 5 years old granddaughter had to dive into ditches 3 times, to escape missile attacks. Hamas showed its determination to eliminate Israel and to kill Jews since year 2005, and it asserts it will continue to see the killing of Jews as its mission.

Israel is fighting back. It must do so, it must protect itself. War is always horrendous and there are always unintended casualties. However, there is no evidence of planned targeting of civilians by the Israel Defense Forces. Hamas is sheltering in tunnels. Taking these tunnels out causes destruction. But there are no better choices, if Hamas is to go.

Resolution No. 22-2024 would do harm if approved. Resolution 22-2024 is not asking anyone with influence to release the Israeli and Western hostages. Why? A cease-fire would allow Hamas to recover and resume its bullying rule over Palestinians in Gaza and to target civilians in Israel. A ceasefire would not dissuade Iran from promoting anti-Western actions.

The Gaza war is tearing at our American society. Neo-Nazis are allying themselves with pro-Palestinian factions, an opportunity to develop an ally for Neo-Nazis' anti-Semitism. Xenophobia and especially anti-Semitism and Islamophobia are on the rise. The Gaza war is complex. Iran uses it as a weapon against Western society.

US already asks Israel to show restraint, when possible. Individuals that step over the line already are sanctioned by U.S. We need to hold back from compounding the difficult situation.

Do not pass Resolution No. 22-2024.

Michael David
410-370-2122
6658 Windsor Ct.
Columbia MD 21044

Respass, Charity

From: Michelle Blake <mhblake.13@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:48 PM
To: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Fwd: reject CR-22 2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michelle Hollingsworth <michellehollingsworth@yahoo.com>
Date: February 2, 2024 at 5:44:28 PM EST
To: Michelle Blake <mhblake.13@gmail.com>

Dear Council Members,

Greetings. Like many in the county, I have been alerted to Councilmember Walsh's proposed resolution calling on Israel to instigate an immediate and unconditional cease-fire in Gaza, CR22-2024, which will be coming to a vote on Monday night, February 5th.

I am confused that the resolution was put forth, and I am shocked that it is coming to a vote this Monday night!

The Howard County Council is proposing to pass a resolution to call on Israel to implement an immediate and unconditional cease fire on what basis? What is the rationale for imposing such a position on an exceedingly complicated geo-political issue and region of which the council knows how much? Has a committee been established to study this issue in greater detail from a range of perspectives? Has any time been taken to deeply examine this situation before such an unequivocal, one-sided resolution is passed? Has the county council done its due diligence in hearing from Jewish leaders and lay people as well as those who support Israel?

I don't recall that any such work has been undertaken.

Moreover, has there been a resolution put forth to denounce Hamas and denounce the terrorist attack on October 7th and that calls for the release of the remaining hostages?

I don't recall that any such resolutions were proposed.

This is a poorly conceived resolution that only serves to divide our community and to sow seeds of misunderstanding and, unfortunately, possibly even hate.

This resolution creates a uni-dimensional, simplified disservice to all who care about creating true and lasting peace in the Middle East and to the diasporas living abroad, and it only exacerbates misunderstandings here in our own county.

From the perspective of those who support Israel's need to destroy Hamas' underground network of military tunnels and the need to retrieve the remaining hostages, calling for an immediate and unconditional cease fire is emphatically unfair to the families whose loved ones were brutally and gleefully murdered and kidnapped on October 7th, and to those who feel their loss and pain; it represents the worst pogrom since the Holocaust. It also ignores the many efforts made by Israel to create lasting peace with Gaza and to expand Gaza's freedom. It's vitally important to understand the many truths of the complicated history and relationship between Israel and Gaza and Palestinians and the rest of the Middle East when examining these issues and proposing resolutions.

This history is critical to understanding the context of Israel needing to defend itself against terrorist attacks. Taking action without further examination of this multi-faceted history is also incredibly unfair to the complexity of the situation unfolding in the Middle East, whose many actors have contributed to the geo-political landscape.

If the council votes to support this resolution, it will lose credibility with Howard County voters, and councilmembers will lose credibility for rushing headstrong into an exceedingly complicated, arduous and painful situation that requires education on all sides.

Rather than passing a resolution for an immediate and unconditional cease fire, the County Council's time, if they care, would be far better spent, establishing a group or committee (or efforts) for cross cultural dialogue for those seeking lasting solutions for peace in the Middle East for Israel, Gaza and it's neighbors.

I urge you to reject this poorly thought-out resolution. The county would be better served by efforts to strengthen our community, rather than divide it, which is exactly what the proposition of this resolution is doing.

We need to do better than that.

Sincerely,

Michelle Blake

Sent from my iPhone

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Moinul Haque <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:38 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Moinul Haque

Moinul Haque
mumble_archway_01@icloud.com
2437 Valley View Way
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Respass, Charity

From: Mona Kamal <monakamal@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:23 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

I am constituent and I am reaching out to ask the council members to support resolution CR22-2024 calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. This is the most important current issue impacting my community in Maryland. Please do not allow these atrocities against innocent civilians to continue.

Mona Kamal

Respass, Charity

From: Murray Bakst <murray_bakst@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:23 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Suggested revision of Resolution 22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

January 29, Dr. Beverlie Fallik forwarded a cover letter with her revisions of the proposed Resolution 20-2024 to the HC Council. We totally support her views and her suggested changes to the resolution.

Furthermore, we were displeased that the proposed resolution 20-2024 failed to address the hostage situation and the continued aggression of Hamas, and for that matter, hezbollah and other Iran-backed terrorist militias against Israel. Their collective goals are the eradication of Israel and Jewish people everywhere. As sad as the plight of the Palestinians has been, Israel's action is that of survival. Hamas will not stop until Israel is eradicated.

We deeply hope that the revisions proposed by Dr. Fallik are incorporated in the final draft of resolution 20-2024.

Thank you,
Murray and Jo-Anne Bakst

8124 Tamar Dr
Columbia, MD 21045

Sent from my iPhone

Respass, Charity

From: Nancy Kutler <nancy.kutler@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:19 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to you today to ask that you **vote no** for Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024 that demands an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calls upon the Biden administration to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urges certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

I support a resolution that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire.

Please vote no to Res CR22-2024!

Nancy Kutler

6405 Tree Top Circle

Columbia, MD 21045

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Nazimuddin Mirza <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:00 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Nazimuddin Mirza
mirzagn@gmail.com
10798 Folkestone way
Woodstock , Maryland 21163

Respass, Charity

From: Nora Goldstein <norangoldie@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:46 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: upcoming vote on resolution CR-22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the members of the Howard County council,

I reside in Columbia, District 3. I am writing to you regarding resolution CR-22-2024.

We are experiencing an increase in antisemitism, plus public antisemitic comments made by a council member. This resolution ignores the fate of the hostages savagely taken from their homes on October 7th.

Council is responsible for laws that govern Howard County, and that does not include international affairs. There are plenty of critical issues in our county that need to be addressed, and that is council's function and priority.

The fact that you are even considering such a vote is very distressing to the Jewish residents who voted for you.

I urge you to reject this resolution.

Respectfully,

Nora Goldstein

Respass, Charity

From: Nusrat Siddique <nsiddiq910@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:15 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good afternoon council members,

I am a constituent of Howard County, and I am writing to urge all of the members of the council to please vote in support of resolution CR22-2024, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. The war crimes committed against the innocent lives in Gaza trickles down to even our wonderful community in Howard county; we must stand up for humanity.

Thank you for your time.

Kindest regards,

Nusrat Siddique, MD
Academic Hospitalist
VAMHCS
Baltimore, MD

Respass, Charity

From: Williams, China
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:30 AM
To: Anderson, Isaiah
Subject: FW: CR22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Olechka <dbakayeva@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:18 AM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

My name is Olga Bakayeva, I live in District 4 in Howard County. I oppose CR22 and ask that the county council vote it down. CR22 will only further divide our community and serves no benefit to the residents of Howard County.

I strongly support the right of Israel to exist as a free and democratic home for the Jewish people AND its other citizens. I would only support a resolution if it called for a ceasefire for ALL parties that is conditioned on the immediate release of all of the hostages taken by Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

I am writing today to express my view on CR22 and ask that you vote against its passage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Olga Bakayeva

Respass, Charity

From: paul schapiro <paul_schapiro@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:36 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote no on Res CR22-2024!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to you today to ask that you **vote no** for Howard County Council Resolution CR22-2024 that demands an immediate cease-fire in Gaza; calls upon the Biden administration to facilitate humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and urges certain elected officials to take immediate action to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis.

This resolution is irresponsible and your method of bringing it to the council for a vote without testimony is truly appalling. It contains NO reference to Israel's right to exist and to defend all of her citizens; no reference that this war was started by a murderous terrorist regime that slaughtered 1200 people and kidnapped 240 citizens of Israel on October 7th and that if Hamas had not attacked there would be no war; no reference that there was a ceasefire in place on October 6th; no reference to the hostages being freed; that humanitarian aid has been provided on a daily basis only to be left dumped into Gaza due to the lack of the UN's ability to properly distribute the aid; and that people of Gaza will be free when Hamas is not in power. None of these are addressed in the proposed resolution.

I support a resolution that requires Hamas to lay down their arms, free the hostages, and then a ceasefire can be negotiated.

Paul Schapiro

Respass, Charity

From: rachel coutts <coutts.rachel@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:57 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Regarding CR 22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Rachel Coutts and I am a resident of Howard County. I oppose CR 22 and am asking that you vote against passing the resolution. It is outside of the scope of what the County Council is elected to do, it is a complicated situation that is not fully or fairly addressed in the resolution, and it is already dividing the community.

Thank you
Rachel Coutts

Respass, Charity

From: Rachel Tarp <rachel.tarp@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:10 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote no on CR22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Rachel Tarp I live in District 5 in Howard County. I **oppose CR22** and ask that the county council vote it down.

Please consider the effect this particular resolution will have on our Jewish community. As a county that prides itself on inclusivity and kindness, our leadership is not displaying this traits in this one sided resolution.

Rachel Tarp

Sent from my iPhone

Respass, Charity

From: Feldman, Ricardo <RFeldman@som.umaryland.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:06 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Gaza resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council members,

I appreciate very much your concern for the events unfolding in the Middle East, in particular the Gaza-Israel War, and the tragic loss of life on both sides.

From what I know, the resolution asking for a cease-fire does not include an unequivocal statement that the brutality and inhuman attack on innocent Israeli civilians was perpetrated by Hamas and Islamic Jihad. First and foremost, the hostages should be released, and this should be included in the resolution. Previous ceasefires were broken unilaterally by those who officially advocate for the destruction of Israel.

As a descendant of holocaust survivors, I am appalled by the expressions in favor of Hamas' actions in this country and around the world. We will not be intimidated and will continue to protect ourselves from bigotry, as we have done for millennia.

I hope you will consider releasing a resolution that is fair.

I vote, and I will be watching how you vote in future elections.

Sincerely,

Ricardo A. Feldman, PhD.
4941 West Running Brook Rd
Columbia, MD 21044

E-mail address: rfeldman@som.umaryland.edu

Respass, Charity

From: Williams, China
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:31 AM
To: Anderson, Isaiah
Subject: FW: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

-----Original Message-----

From: Rob Kalishman <rkalishman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 7:25 AM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello Deb,

I am against CR22-2024. It must also address the return of the Israeli hostages that Gaza's people kidnapped on October 7th causing this War.

In addition any resolution should also include wording calling for the Gaza's terrorists to cease using the public as shields.

I am horrified by the loss of human life and hope the terrorists can be eliminated quickly so this can be over.

Rob Kalishman

Sent from my iPhone

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Rob Kalishman <rkalishman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 7:38 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: CR22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello Liz,

I am saddened that you have ignored the hostages as well as the opportunity to condemn Hamas in your resolution.

I am against CR22-2024, as it must also address the return of the Israeli hostages that Gaza-Terrorists kidnapped on October 7th causing this War.

In addition, any resolution should include calling for the Gaza-terrorists to cease using the public as shields.

I am horrified by the loss of human life and hope the terrorists can be eliminated quickly so this can be over.

Please do not sign CR22

Rob Kalishman

Sent from my iPhone

Respass, Charity

From: Roni Berkowitz <roniberkowitz42@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:29 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Members of the Howard County Council:

It has come to our attention that the Council will be voting on a resolution supporting a ceasefire in Gaza on Monday night. We are respectfully requesting that you vote AGAINST this resolution. As residents who are actively engaged in both the political life of the County and in the Howard County Jewish community, we find the resolution inappropriate and not reflective of a Council that usually understands that it represents many diverse ethnic, racial and religious groups whose differing perspectives add to the richness of this county's identity. This resolution addresses an issue that is clearly out of the realm of the Council's responsibilities and areas of expertise as a governing body. We did not elect our Council representative, Liz Walsh, for her understanding of foreign affairs, and certainly not for her opinions on a matter that is beyond the scope of her job description as a County Council member.

We have been very troubled by the suffering that Gazans have experienced after Israel retaliated for Hamas's horrendous attack on innocent civilians--MANY OF THEM PEACE ACTIVISTS-- on October 7. However, to vote on a resolution asking only for a ceasefire. with not one word mentioning the events of October 7 or about the taking of hostages, many of whom remain in captivity or worse, is unconscionable. Moreover, to not acknowledge Israel's right to exist and to defend itself, albeit with consideration for innocent Palestinians, flies in the face of Jewish history.

Sincerely,
Ronald and Roni Goss Berkowitz
2530 Kensington Gardens; #203
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Respass, Charity

From: Ronna Korotkin <ronna.korotkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:51 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to you as a Howard County resident for almost 25 years who would like to politely ask you to change the wording of resolution CR22-2024. We all would love nothing more than a ceasefire in the Middle East, but to call for a ceasefire without demanding the return of the hostages taken on October 7 or any acknowledgement of the brutal attack on Israeli citizens seems very antisemitic. I would like to encourage the council to demand the return of the hostages in order for there to be a proper ceasefire. Hamas is to blame for the war...all of it! Hamas is to blame for the poor state of the Palestinians. All they have to do is return the hostages to negotiate for peace. Hamas holds ALL the cards, not the Israelis. Hamas has rejected every peace offering from Israel. Israel is fighting to get their people back just like we fought for our hostages in the Iranian hostage crisis of 1979, and more currently, Brittany Griner. Where is the rest of the world? Where is the help from close Arab nations to help open borders for the peace loving Palestinians to escape? European countries opened their borders when Russia attacked Ukraine. Is there a ceasefire resolution from Howard County regarding Russia? Where are the hospital ships to help suffering Palestinians while their own hospitals are full of Hamas terrorists and weapons of war? The rest of the world seems to turn a blind eye to atrocities happening all over the world, but manages to be laser focused when a Jewish nation fights back after atrocities have been done to it. I still am not 100% sure why Howard County is even crafting a resolution about a Middle Eastern ceasefire, but to do so without mentioning the return of Israeli hostages is appalling and so out of touch with the diversity loving neighborhoods we call home. Please change the wording of the resolution to include the release and return of the Israeli hostages as a condition of the ceasefire.

Thank you very much,
Ronna Korotkin
Howard County District 2 Resident

Respass, Charity

From: Ronnie <ronniesanderson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:25 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fwd: STRONGLY OPPOSED to Liz Walsh's CR 22-2024 resolution

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Hannah Sanderson Buchner <hsbuchner@gmail.com>
Date: February 2, 2024 at 11:06:10 AM EST

----- Forwarded message -----

With the news last night that Howard County Council Member Liz Walsh's Ceasefire resolution to the Howard County council will be fast-tracked to a vote on Monday rather than go through the public comment that was scheduled for February 20th, I wanted to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the Resolution (CR 22-2024) introduced by Councilmember Walsh.

The crux of my opposition to CR 22-2024 is that the resolution calls for a ceasefire, but does not explicitly call for the release of all of the 130+ hostages (or remains of hostages) still being held in Gaza by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other associated terror groups. The ceasefire resolution also appears to be a one-sided ceasefire, which pins the blame for the devastating loss of innocent civilian life in Gaza and Israel solely on the actions of the State of Israel and the Israel Defense Forces. Further, the resolution makes no mention of the brutal events of the unprovoked attacks of October 7th, which claimed the lives of more than 1200 civilians – brutally murdered in their homes, in the fields, at a dance festival, on the road and in any place where the terrorists found them. Again, the details of these attacks have been chronicled by those who witnessed and survived, but also by the explicit body-cam images captured and disseminated by the Hamas terrorists. As someone who has seen some of the most graphic imagery that was deliberately and joyfully distributed by Hamas, I can tell you that when the deniers will come to say that these things did not take place, the very perpetrators of these actions will have provided the incontrovertible evidence.

If the International Court of Justice itself recently called for the return of all hostages and did not ultimately call for a ceasefire, why would our county council? It literally does not make logical sense.

Councilmember Walsh referenced several leaders of the Democratic Party who have similarly called for ceasefire's in their resolutions. They specifically called for the immediate release of all 130-plus hostages. The decision to consciously omit this from the resolution submitted to the Howard County Council can be seen as nothing else than a deliberate decision to erase the existence and legitimacy of the lives of these hostages – civilians who range in age from one year old to mid-80s. This decision alone should make anyone who cares for all of humanity carefully consider what a vote for this resolution would say about their values, commitments and ethics.

I say all of this with the simultaneous deep concern for the untold amount of suffering being experienced by the civilian population of Gaza. The civilian casualty numbers are beyond comprehension, and I call on the Israel Defense Forces to do everything possible to avoid any and every civilian casualty, even as they legitimately proceed in this war against the Hamas terrorists who have repeatedly vowed to conduct attacks worse than October 7th again and again – witness repeated public statements by Hamas officials both in the Gaza strip and speaking from their relative safety of Qatar.

Any Ceasefire resolution must also acknowledge the deliberate and calculated tactics and actions of Hamas that make them culpable for substantial percentages of the civilian deaths that have occurred throughout the prosecution of Israel's war on Hamas. The employment of human shields, the placement of weapons depots, rocket launching stations and command centers deliberately inside of dense civilian areas, inside and beneath hospitals, schools, UNHCR facilities and other places which are sure to result in civilian loss of life have been a hallmark of Hamas' tactics for years, but in this specific war have resulted in the most devastating of consequences.

Lastly, why is this the work of the Howard County Council?

In sum, I reject this resolution and the division it has already caused.

Ronnie Sanderson

Respass, Charity

From: Ryan Mayers <rsmayers@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:36 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: AGAINST CR22-202

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024. I believe that as long as there are hostages that are held by the terrorists, Israel has a right to defend itself and fight for their lives as well as the safety and protection of its citizens.

Also, it confuses me why this resolution is necessary in Howard County where we have no influence on the outcome in Israel. It seems to me to be a tactic to divide the community in Howard County. I believe we need to band together to make Howard County the best it can be for the people who live here.

We recently moved here because of the reputation of the parks, schools and community and hope that you will take this into consideration to continue working for the people here.

Sincerely,
Ryan Mayers
Ellicott City

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Sadia munir <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:14 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Howard county council call ceasefire NOW!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am deeply concerned about the crisis in Gaza, where over 27,000 lives have been tragically lost. I urge your support for Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution. This action aligns with Maryland's values of human rights and peace. Your support will reflect our community's commitment to global humanitarian issues.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Sadia munir
sohamusa@gmail.com
4912 , Owens Court
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Respass, Charity

From: Saffiyah Madraswala <saffiyah.madraswala@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:16 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support of CR-22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

As a constituent living in Columbia in District 3, I am expressing my support of CR-22 demanding an immediate cease-fire in Gaza. I am proud to live in Howard County and know that we will be on the right side of history by passing this resolution which at its core recognizes and emphasizes a shared humanity. I wholeheartedly hope that all council members will support CR-22.

Sincerely,
Saffiyah

--

Saffiyah Madraswala
732-261-5829

Respass, Charity

From: SamGray <samgraymail@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:07 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote against CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hi,

I am a student at Atholton High School and would like to ask you to vote against the resolution for a ceasefire that Liz Walsh wrote. The climate at school is really tough right now and I don't understand why you are working on this resolution. It has made things so much worse for everyone.

The resolution should have never been introduced but really no one has any sympathy for Israeli or Jewish people. Have you read the New York Times article? Can you condemn the sexual violence and mutilations of children that happened on October 7?

Why does everyone have to be on one side or the other? Why can't we just stand up for innocent people on both sides?

If you call for the ceasefire, to be a good person, you would also have to call for the return of the hostages that are being tortured every day, you would have to condemn the disgusting nightmarish violence of October 7, and you would have to condemn Hamas as a terrorist organization that also harms the Palestinian people and that needs to be dismantled for the progress of a two state solution.

If the County Council cannot do all of that in the resolution, then why would you cause harm and just take one side?

Really, it's so easy to be able to be a human being and do both sides, or stick to county business and not pass this one sided resolution.

I appreciate your time. I have to imagine most of you didn't want this resolution on their desk in the first place.

Thank you.

Samuel Lee
Atholton High School
Grade 10

Respass, Charity

From: sandycederbaum@verizon.net
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:02 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote NO on CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Councilmembers,

We are writing to let you know that WE DO NOT support CR22-2024. The terrorist attack Israel carried out by HAMAS on October 7, 2023 was and continues to be a horrific event. The immediate release of the hostages must occur. We defend Israel's right to defend herself.

The resolution completely ignores the events of October 7. We are saddened by the current situation in Gaza but cannot support a one-sided cease fire without, first and foremost, calling for the release of all hostages including Americans citizens that remain hostage.

The fact that the Council will introduce and vote on CR22-2024 on Feb. 5, 2024, while legal, is abhorrent. The resolution has not only caused a divide among the residents of Howard County, but also, the manner in which it is being voted on, without the residents' ability to testify is unjustifiable.

We hope as representatives of the County you will NOT SUPPORT this resolution.

Sincerely,
Sandy and Ken Cederbaum, District 2

Respass, Charity

From: Sara Benjamin <saraebenjamin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:27 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: AGAINST CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I oppose CR-22-2024.

I do not think that it is appropriate for our local council to issue resolutions relating to foreign affairs. Calling out this one particular foreign policy issue is beyond the mandate of the council.

In addition, calling for a ceasefire without calling for the release of the hostages is antisemitic and goes against US foreign policy.

Sara Benjamin
District 3 resident, Howard County

Respass, Charity

From: Sarah Sexton <sesexton726@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:26 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please vote AGAINST CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

My name is Sarah Sexton, I am a Howard County resident and voter. Please vote against resolution CR22-2024. It is clearly beyond the scope of the County Council to pass legislation such as this.

Thank you,

--

Sarah Sexton

Anderson, Isaiah

From: shahanrizvi@gmail.com <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 11:14 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth
Subject: Urgent Call for Strengthening CR22-2024: A Resolution for Peace and Justice in Gaza

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilmember Liz Walsh,

Dear Members of the Howard County Council and County Executive Calvin Ball,

I am writing to express my strong support for Councilmember Liz Walsh's resolution, CR22-2024, which calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. This resolution is a critical step in reflecting the values and conscience of our community, and it highlights our collective desire for peace and an end to the humanitarian crisis. The introduction of this resolution is a commendable act, demonstrating our community's commitment to global human rights and the importance of taking a stand against violence and injustice.

However, while CR22-2024 is a significant step forward, I believe it is imperative for the council to strengthen this resolution further. I urge you to consider officially recognizing Israel as an Apartheid State within the resolution. This recognition is crucial in accurately reflecting the systemic injustices and human rights violations occurring in the region. Additionally, adopting a policy of Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel will align our county with a global movement that seeks to apply economic pressure to promote human rights and justice.

I also urge the inclusion of a demand in CR22-2024 for the immediate release of the thousands of Palestinians unjustly detained by Apartheid Israel, reaffirming our commitment to human rights and international law.

Lastly, I call upon the council to advocate for the immediate cessation of all political, diplomatic, and military support for Israel. Our community should not be complicit in the perpetuation of these conflicts. Strengthening CR22-2024 to include these aspects will not only demonstrate our county's dedication to justice and peace but also set a precedent for

other communities to follow. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue, and I earnestly hope for your support in making CR22-2024 a robust and impactful resolution.

shahanrizvi@gmail.com
6393 windharp way
Columbia, Maryland 21045

Respass, Charity

From: Sharon McRae <sdmcrae@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:22 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: AGAINST CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024

Sharon McRae

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Shazia Bano <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:08 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Free Gaza

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am deeply concerned about the crisis in Gaza, where over 27,000 lives have been tragically lost. I urge your support for Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution. This action aligns with Maryland's values of human rights and peace. Your support will reflect our community's commitment to global humanitarian issues.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Shazia Bano
shazich43@gmail.com
6412woodland forest drive
Elkridge , Maryland 21075

Respass, Charity

From: Elaine Kramer <sheldonkramer@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:10 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution CR 22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

We are asking you to oppose CR 22-2024 resolution

Sheldon & Elaine Kramer

Respass, Charity

From: mstarts3@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 8:25 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Comments on Liz Walsh's resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

As residents of Howard County since 1976, we have always been very proud to live in a community where everyone is accepted regardless of color, religion or political beliefs. When we heard of the resolution put forward in your chambers, we were appalled, sickened and frightened by its contents. Resolution CR22-2024 calls for a ceasefire in Gaza, but does NOT call for the release of the Israeli and other hostages (either alive or their remains) brutally kidnapped by Hamas on October 7th of last year. It thoroughly puts the blame for all of this on the actions of the Israeli government and the IDF while ignoring all of the horror of that unforgettable day.

If this happened in the US, we can't see the American government sitting back and allowing this to pass without taking immediate action. Our hearts go out to the people in Gaza who are having to deal with the consequences of their government's actions. But our hearts also go out to the people in Israel who awoke to such horror on that fateful day in October. Those who were brutally murdered - babies, children, teenagers, grown women and men. Do their lives, cut short by terrorists mean nothing? Those who survived, but lost loved ones, does their grieving and suffering mean nothing? And those who are being held hostage as we write this, will they ever be able to release the horrors of their captivity? No counseling will ever be able to clear their heads of the terror they must be feeling. Do these lives mean less than those of the Gazans?

We implore you to think twice and then think twice again and again before passing this one sided resolution. The County Council owes it to those in Howard County who voted for them or not to vote NO against this divisive piece of legislation.

Thank you for taking the time to read our comments.

Stanley and Ellen Strichartz
6380 Bright Plume
Columbia 21044

Respass, Charity

From: Stephanie McQueeney <sdmcqueeney@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:25 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote against CR22-2025

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I have lived in this county for over 40 years. We don't need to join in discourse in the county. Why are the hostages not paramount.

Please vote against

--

Stephanie McQueeney
240-876-5407

Respass, Charity

From: Steven Karon <stevekaron21044@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:51 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: cball@howardcounty.gov
Subject: CR 22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

As a resident of Howard County, I am writing in regard to proposed resolution CR 22-2024 on which the County Council has scheduled a vote on February 5, 2024. While the situation in Gaza, Israel, and the surrounding areas are horrifically tragic, I am writing to request that Council members do not vote for this resolution as written.

On October 7th, 2023, Hamas entered from Gaza into Israel, killed an estimated 1200 people and took an estimated 250 hostages, of which an estimated 150 may remain. Since that time Israel has entered Gaza, with the stated goals of removing Hamas from power and to obtain the return of the hostages. Many have spoken out about the displacement of Palestinians and the loss of life in this period. Estimates have put the loss of life in Gaza at over 25,000 individuals. I share in the concerns as to the degree of response, akin to some of the recent considerations regarding the United States use of atomic weaponry in Japan in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor in World War II. I note that the use of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki at that time is estimated to have resulted in the loss of between 150,000 and 250,000 lives over a two to four month period, half occurring on the first days after the bombings. This is clearly not to diminish the lives lost in Gaza, but to try to give each of you a different context or reference point outside of the current situation as to whether a cease-fire resolution is a proper action this Council should be taking at this time.

A call for a complete cease-fire is a call saying that terrorist organizations, and in this case one that is essentially a de-facto government, should be able to seize and hold innocent people hostage at its own leisure. Even if one views the actions of Israel as disproportionate, it should not result in a resolution that in effect says Hamas is entitled to hold hostage the innocent people it took on October 7, 2023. Additionally a resolution that only calls for a cease-fire in Gaza is implicitly condoning the continued or future use of violence by elsewhere within Israel – given that the current events stemmed from the actions of Hamas on October 7, 2023.

I also am deeply troubled by an implication at the outset of the proposed legislation that the current actions in Gaza involve the “targeting of civilians”. (First whereas sentence of CR 22-2024.) Again, while we can be deeply affected by the loss of life that has taken place, extreme caution should be taken with regard to the imposition of intent at this time – which is what the word “targeting” certainly does do. I note in particular the comments of United States House of Representatives minority leader Hakeem Jeffries who on October 31, 2023 stated “Israel is not conducting an ethnic cleansing campaign. Israel is not engaged in genocide. Israel was brutally attacked in the most horrific way on October 7th. It has resulted in the largest loss of Jewish life since the Holocaust. And Israel is in a position where it is responding and going after Hamas. That is a necessary and urgent project for it to complete.” (<https://democraticleader.house.gov/media/press-releases/leader-jeffries-extreme-maga-republicans-want-irresponsibly-condition-aid>)

For these reasons, whether this matter is one suited for this Council as opposed to other government bodies, as well as many other reasons unstated, I ask that you not support this resolution as currently drafted.

Sincerely,

Steve Karon

Columbia, MD 21044

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Steven Kramer <skramer@21pstem.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:17 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Resolution CR-22

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Councilwoman Walsh,
I live in District 5, but would like to suggest an amendment to your Resolution CR22. See my email below to my councilman, Mr. Yungman.

Steve Kramer

From: Steven Kramer
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 3:13 PM
To: councildistrict5@howardcountymd.gov
Cc: Columbia Jewish Congregation <robin@columbiajewishcongregation.ccsend.com>
Subject: Resolution CR-22

Dear Mr. Yungman,

I am a Jewish American and a constituent of Howard County District 5. Although I strongly support an immediate cease-fire in Gaza, I do not support the current resolution and would request that you either amend it or not support its current form. I have two problems with the resolution.

- 1) It does not call for a return of the hostages taken on Oct 7. This is a serious oversight and makes the resolution appear to be one-sided, when both the Israeli government and Hamas have much to answer for.
- 2) It asks the **Biden administration** to immediately call for a cease-fire. This would be a mistake, and likely to backfire and make a cease-fire LESS likely. As best I can tell, the Biden administration is working hard to use its influence in the Middle East and Israel to bring an end to the conflict and create changes on the ground that will make future conflicts less likely. By calling for a cease-fire now the administration would lose trust and influence with Israel, and be LESS likely to help end the conflict. In short, doing so would be virtue signaling, but not virtue. Below are links to two articles by middle east analysts that describe the work the Biden administration is doing and the careful groundwork they are laying so that the U.S. can actually get the conflict to stop; as opposed to making loud noise which would make us feel good but accomplish nothing.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/02/01/us-biden-administration-saudi-arabia-mbs-netanyahu-deal/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/31/opinion/biden-iran-israel.html>

Here is a possible amended

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, 14 Maryland this _____ day of _____, 2024 that Howard County Council ~~demands that 15 the Biden administration~~ immediately call for and facilitate **calls upon the Israeli government to** institute a cease-fire in Gaza **immediately**; and 16

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Howard County Council calls upon Hamas to immediately release all hostages ceased on Oct 7.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Howard County Council calls upon the Biden 18 administration to promptly send and facilitate the entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and 19

20

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to United States 21 Congressmen Dutch Ruppersburger, John Sarbanes, Glenn Ivey, Steny Hoyer, David Trone, 22 Kweisi Mfume and Jamie Raskin; United States Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen; and 23 to President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, urging them to take immediate action 24 to use their position and influence to end this humanitarian crisis. 25

26

Thank you for your attention,

Steven Kramer
10321 Breconshire Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21042
(443)681-8444

If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am for myself alone, what am I? And if not now, when?
Hillel

Respass, Charity

From: Steven Sass <sass.steven@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:10 PM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; Jung, Debra
Cc: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; sstuart@jewishhowardcounty.org; gfuller@jewishhowardcounty.org; rabbiaxler@templeisaiah.org; Ball, Calvin
Subject: CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Ms. Jung-

I write you as a long-time (45+ years) resident of Howard County and your District. Over the years I have served as a Transition Team member for all Howard County executives since Liz Bobo (except Alan Kittelman); a former multi-term member and Chair of the County Council/County Executive Compensation Committee; former Chair of the Howard County Economic Development Commission (predecessor to the current EDAC) and more. I point this out to remind you that I am well aware of the responsibilities and limitations of appropriate behavior and actions by our County Government. I fear that the proposed Resolution goes well outside of the limits of appropriate actions by the County Council.

I am very distressed to hear of the proposed Howard County Council resolution (CR22-2024). While I believe most residents of our County support the goal of an immediate ceasefire in Gaza - it MUST be coupled with an immediate release of all hostages taken by Hamas and their proxies in the October 7th raid on Israel, destruction of all tunnels used during and after the invasion, and multi-lateral guarantees against the ability of Hamas to ever invade Israel again. Failure to couple those several components and more suggests that the County Council and by extension, the residents of Howard County, are unconcerned about the Israeli hostages and ignores the unprecedented terrorist attack to which Israel was subjected. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Further, the Resolution is factually misleading, as many if not all of the statements I could find from our elected officials mentioned, include a release of all hostages as a requirement of a ceasefire.

The County Council has no business making a resolution of this nature at all. This Resolution is at best one-sided and incomplete and at worst diminishes the valid right of self-protection of the Israeli people and fails to recognize the unprovoked attack leveled at Israel from Gaza on October 7th and the ongoing suffering of the hostage families that continues to this day.

To make a one sided statement regarding a ceasefire without speaking in support of hostage release and decrying the unprovoked attack on Israeli sovereignty is to diminish the concerns of the Israeli people and those who support them in the U.S. and in our County. At a minimum it is an insult to those residents of Howard County, Jewish and otherwise who believe all concerns must be addressed simultaneously.

In my opinion, the Howard County Council has no business making any resolution regarding international affairs, but if it insists on doing so, the Resolution must be comprehensive and fully in recognition of the concerns of all innocent parties impacted by the ongoing tragedy in the Middle East, Gazans and Israelis alike. Failure to be comprehensive is an insult, directly to those Israelis who suffered in the initial terrorist assault and hostage taking as well as those who support

them, including a large portion of the Howard County Jewish Community and many non-Jews who agree with those concerns.

I urge you to reconsider, apologize to all suffering parties and withdraw or vote against the flawed proposed Resolution.

I am available to discuss this issue further with the County Council and I am sure the various representatives of the Howard County Jewish Community would like to be heard on this matter BEFORE a vote is taken.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Steve Sass

Steven D. Sass, Esq
6425 River Run
Columbia, MD 21044
Mobile: 410-458-6100

Respass, Charity

From: Steve Cooperstein <scooperstein@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:51 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Cc: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Ms. Walsh,

I'm writing to express my deep disappointment in your proposal to the Council of this antisemitic and anti Israel resolution.

Howard County has a strong tradition of cultural tolerance and cooperation. It even sends every new resident a green magnet reminding us to Choose Civility.

Hamas does not choose civility in anything, yet this resolution supports Hamas' terrorism. The leadership of Hamas bombs Israel every single day, yet this resolution calls on Israel to stop defending itself. How does this fit with the Howard County mantra to Choose Civility?

It doesn't. Plain and simple. It is completely inappropriate for the Howard County Council to take this stance against the state of Israel, its right to defend itself, and especially against the Jewish people of Howard County.

When you presented to my daughter's Cub Scout unit, we believed what you said about the rule of law.

But proposing this resolution actually suggests that you may not understand what the rule of law means when it comes to Gaza and Israel. Did you know that most of the drinkable water in Gaza still comes from Israel? How about electricity, healthcare supplies, food, and fuel? All of that comes from Israel, yet you suggest that Israel should continue to provide all of these things while getting bombed daily by the Hamas leadership in Gaza. And further call for a county level resolution against a foreign country defending itself against those bombs. Do you understand what you're suggesting here? Support the terrorists, that's what your resolution does.

Any vote in favor of this resolution to be a slap in the face to every single Jewish person in the county.

I hope choose to make the right decision to withdraw this resolution from any further consideration by the Council. It's contrary to the values our county stands for.

Thank you for your time.

-Steven Cooperstein
Ellicott City, MD.

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Sumaira Noman <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:29 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Sumaira Noman
Faran_usa@yahoo.com
9534 glen oaks ln, 9534
Columbia, Maryland 21046

Respass, Charity

From: Terri Witlin <terri@witlin.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:02 AM
To: CouncilMail; CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; Walsh, Elizabeth;
countyexecutive@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: I oppose CR 22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I respectfully write to you all today, as a 30+ year citizen of Howard County residing in District 1, to voice my vehement opposition to proposed resolution CR 22-2024.

I have concerns with the language in this resolution as well as with the message that it sends and the underlying hateful tone that it reads. More specifically, I take issue with language that was left out to include an immediate release of all Israeli hostages still held by Hamas, or whatever other terrorist group they have been traded to.

But bottom line, in my opinion, this resolution does not even belong as work at the local, Howard County Council level. The County Council has plenty of good work to do right here in our community which includes continuing to make this a place we want to live and raise families. Resolution CR 22-2024 does absolutely nothing to move forward and improve citizen relations at the local, county level. If anything, it has caused me to fear living here amongst so many haters. It causes me fear to worship or attend Jewish events in the community when I see and hear so many vitriolic remarks about Jews, Israel, "Zionists", etc. posted by members right here in our own community, especially those voices that have come out in support of this resolution; which, in my opinion, does not belong at the County level.

As a resident of District 1, I must rely on all the other council members to vote against this flawed proposal by my elected representative. And I only hope that this vote was moved forward in time to strike it from the record sooner rather than later.

In closing, I ask that you remember the 130+ hostages who are still unaccounted for and whose demand for release was apparently "forgotten" in this flawed resolution. I implore you to look at their faces and read their names out loud: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-67053011>

thank you for your time,
Terri Witlin

Respass, Charity

From: TJ <goandgrief@pm.me>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 6:58 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Ceasefire Resolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

I am a constituent asking delegates to support an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Over 27,000 innocent civilians have been murdered, 2,000,000 civilians are at risk of death due to hunger, thirst, and disease, and countless others are still lost under the rubble created by Israeli bombings. This is a humanitarian issue and I need to see that the delegates advocate for human rights.

Thank you.

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Tooba Malik <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 6:51 AM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am deeply concerned about the crisis in Gaza, where over 27,000 lives have been tragically lost. I urge your support for Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution. This action aligns with Maryland's values of human rights and peace. Your support will reflect our community's commitment to global humanitarian issues.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Tooba Malik
toobamerium786@gmail.com
315 Lewis St Nw
Vienna , Virginia 22180

Respass, Charity

From: Trevor Greene <trevordentist@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:27 PM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Request to vote AGAINST CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear members of the Howard County Council and County Executive Ball,

I urge you to vote AGAINST CR22-2024 and denounce it in no uncertain terms.

I am a lifelong Howard County resident, having lived in Long Reach, Kings Contrivance, Owen Brown, River Hill, and now live in West Friendship in District 5. While living in River Hill, I served many years on the River Hill Village Board and was twice awarded "River Hill Volunteer of the Year."

I take much pride in our County, and have always worked hard to better it for all by striving to build positive connections between our neighbors of every stripe. Right before our eyes, CR22-2024 is not only making a mockery of these connections, but is actually doing harm to many members of our community.

CR22-2024, and its sponsor's advocacy for it, have fanned the flames of antisemitism in our community. Read any social media post about CR22-2024, and you will inevitably see hate-filled and antisemitic comments. The words, behavior, and organization of the supporters of CR22-2024 have caused severe angst in the Howard County Jewish community. We are concerned about sending our children to school. Many are afraid to go to the George Howard Building on 2/5 due to rumors of the threat of violence at a rally from the supporters of CR22-2024. We are concerned about walking around in public wearing articles of clothing that identify us as Jewish.

Is there a problem with antisemitism in Howard County in 2024? The fact that many members of the Howard County Jewish community are living in fear, and feeling as though they've been "othered," is enough reason alone to do everything in your power to fight against antisemitism wherever its flames flare. And right now, CR22-2024 is the kindling.

Please, stand up for the Jewish community, stand against antisemitism, and vote AGAINST CR22-2024.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership on this fundamental issue of our time,
Sincerely yours,
Dr. Trevor Greene

Respass, Charity

From: Tzvi Robbins <tzvirobbins@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 6:00 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote on Gaza ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear councilmen and councilwomen:

As a former Israeli citizen, I feel that it is not the place of any county or city council in America to make votes regarding a ceasefire in Israel. Additionally, such a vote would not make any impact. While Israel tries to protect its citizens from constant terror from Hamas, we as Americans have an obligation to allow Israel to complete their careful tactics against Hamas terrorists. Therefore any vote for ceasefire would imply a vote for terrorism.

Respectfully,
Tzvi Robbins, MD

Sent from my iPhone

Anderson, Isaiah

From: Usman Tahir <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:49 PM
To: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov
Subject: Stand With Peace: Call For Ceasefire

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilwoman Liz Walsh,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Howard County, deeply troubled by the ongoing crisis in Gaza. As our community stands for justice and humanitarian values, I urge you to support Councilwoman Liz Walsh's ceasefire resolution.

The conflict in Gaza is not just a distant issue; it resonates with us here in Howard County, Maryland. We have a proud tradition of advocating for human rights and peace. Supporting this resolution aligns with our commitment to these principles and showcases Maryland's role as a compassionate, globally aware community.

As a member of this community, I believe it is imperative that we raise our voices for those suffering. This resolution is more than a political statement; it's a beacon of hope for a peaceful future. By backing this resolution, the Howard County Council can demonstrate leadership and compassion that reflects the values of our community.

I trust that you will consider this urgent plea and stand on the right side of history by supporting Councilwoman Walsh's resolution. Thank you for your time and for representing the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

Usman Tahir
utahir1982@gmail.com
7414 Haven Ct
Highland, Maryland 20777

Respass, Charity

From: Willma Iny <willma.iny@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:17 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22-2024

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I would like you to vote against CR22-2024. Willma Iny

Anderson, Isaiah

From: ZaQuane Dozier <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:35 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth
Subject: Urgent Call for Strengthening CR22-2024: A Resolution for Peace and Justice in Gaza

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilmember Liz Walsh,

Dear Members of the Howard County Council and County Executive Calvin Ball,

I am writing to express my strong support for Councilmember Liz Walsh's resolution, CR22-2024, which calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. This resolution is a critical step in reflecting the values and conscience of our community, and it highlights our collective desire for peace and an end to the humanitarian crisis. The introduction of this resolution is a commendable act, demonstrating our community's commitment to global human rights and the importance of taking a stand against violence and injustice.

However, while CR22-2024 is a significant step forward, I believe it is imperative for the council to strengthen this resolution further. I urge you to consider officially recognizing Israel as an Apartheid State within the resolution. This recognition is crucial in accurately reflecting the systemic injustices and human rights violations occurring in the region. Additionally, adopting a policy of Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel will align our county with a global movement that seeks to apply economic pressure to promote human rights and justice.

I also urge the inclusion of a demand in CR22-2024 for the immediate release of the thousands of Palestinians unjustly detained by Apartheid Israel, reaffirming our commitment to human rights and international law.

Lastly, I call upon the council to advocate for the immediate cessation of all political, diplomatic, and military support for Israel. Our community should not be complicit in the perpetuation of these conflicts. Strengthening CR22-2024 to include these aspects will not only demonstrate our county's dedication to justice and peace but also set a precedent for

other communities to follow. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue, and I earnestly hope for your support in making CR22-2024 a robust and impactful resolution.

ZaQuane Dozier

zaquanes@gmail.com

3400 Tulleys Pointe Ct

Abingdon, Maryland 21009