
From: Daina Garonzik <iradaina6@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 12:04 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Re: Please read and distribute prior to Feb 5 vote on 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 thank you for the time and consideration you put into truly understanding the deeper meaning behind Resolution CR22-2024 and for not passing the resolution. Its wording is more loaded and its impact much more hurtful to the Jewish community than people realize. I am available to discuss further, and I hope you had the chance to read my letter - as I am sure you have received many on this controversial and divided issue. I feel the letter I wrote summarizes a larger meaning behind passing a cease fire resolution. I and many citizens appreciate you do not feel it necessary to make a public statement and pass a resolution that would publicly divide the community further or make Jewish and Israeli individuals feel marginalized or isolated - as times have been challenging enough. Our college students, especially, are suffering severely - which is heartbreaking to witness. Thank you again.

On Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 2:00 PM Daina Garonzik <iradaina6@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Councilwoman Walsh and Members of the Howard County Council,

As an attorney, mother, daughter, sister, and Jewish citizen in Maryland – I am disappointed and ashamed that you would propose and support in any way Resolution CR22-2024 - demanding for an immediate cease fire in Gaza. You point to the millions of innocent lives being jeopardized in Gaza. Yet Council President Liz Walsh’s resolution fails to take into account its antisemitic intent and impact:

- 1) A cease fire will ONLY benefit Hamas AND proxy groups aimed at annihilating and eradicating all Jews and the state of Israel. This is not just conjecture – this is an absolute fact, which Hamas and every proxy group aiming to kill Israelis has made clear and unequivocal. Calls of “From the River to the Sea” symbolize the elimination of Israel from its west to east border – and that intent of Hamas and Iranian proxies is no secret.
- 2) Israel is fighting to survive – fighting to exist. Many point to the despicable, violent, inhumane and evil actions by Hamas on October 7, 2023, as proof that Hamas has killed Israeli innocent civilians as well. However – I would be remiss if I didn’t clarify that there is much more at stake here. THERE IS MUCH MORE TO CONSIDER WHEN YOU REQUEST THE END OF THE KILLING OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS VIA A CEASEFIRE. Israel happens to be fortunate to have the Iron Dome – to protect its people from the missiles and rockets aimed every day at innocent Jewish civilians to kill them and destroy them. Without that self protection – do you really think the number of innocent civilians on the Israeli side would not exist? Palestinian violent proxy groups are aiming rockets and bombs at Israel all day and for many years – tens of thousands of Israelis have been killed deliberately by Hamas and Iranian proxy groups whose only goal is to destroy Israel and kill Israelis. Even today that is the only goal of Hamas, Houthis, Hezbollah and other proxy groups. Israel just has fewer innocent civilians dying because

the Iron Dome has intercepted the rockets aimed to kill Israelis. DO NOT BE FOOLED. There are innocent civilian lives at stake in both directions. But a cease fire CERTAINLY will not stop the firing from terror groups toward Israel because their sole goal, which they are very open and transparent about, is to destroy every ounce of Israel and everyone in it.

3) If there is a cease fire – Hamas and other proxy groups of Iran have made very clear that they will continue to fight to destroy Israel, regardless of when or where. So, what exactly are you attempting to accomplish with Resolution CR22-2024? Do you really expect a cease fire to solve the problem that Hamas started with violence in the first place? Hamas has made very clear, as have other groups, that they plan to continue until all violence, killings, stabbings, and bombings of Israelis until Israel and Jews are gone.

4) Who will be the parties to this “cease fire” being proposed? Is Hamas negotiating and agreeing to it? Are Houthis negotiating it? Is Hezbollah negotiating with Israel? Is Iran compromising and negotiating with Israel on behalf of its proxies? Because a cease fire must go both ways. So, who exactly will sit down at the table to negotiate and implement your cease fire? Or are you only requesting Israel to “cease fire?”

5) Israel is not the party killing and punishing innocent civilians in Gaza and the West Bank. In fact, it has been more than one decade since Israel withdrew from Gaza, as well as REMOVED EVERY ISRAELI LIVING ON GAZAN LAND, even though many Israelis were upset about the unilateral Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and the northern West Bank. In August 2005, under Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Israel unilaterally evacuated all Israelis from the Gaza Strip and the northern West Bank. In fact, Palestinians in Gaza chose Hamas to become their governing leader – a leader that should have been responsible for creating infrastructure, schools, hospitals, educational systems, and a sound economic system. When Israel withdrew from Gaza, Israel even left behind in perfect operating condition its agricultural lands and properties to help Hamas create sustainable life off of the land and ways for people in Gaza to support themselves. Do you know what happened next? Hamas went and DESTROYED all of the agricultural property provided by Israel – Hamas didn’t care about its people and taking care of them. In fact, in response to Israel’s withdrawal, Gaza immediately launched missiles and rockets into Israel at innocent civilians for years – as far as to Tel Aviv.

6) There have been multiple efforts, even since October 7, 2023, to implement a cease fire and/or peace. EVERY SINGLE TIME Hamas has chosen not to enforce the cease fire agreement or to maintain peace – Israel has complied EVERY SINGLE TIME. Even more, historically – every single time Israel has come to the table and either agreed to provide land or independence to Palestinians – Palestinians have rejected all peaceful initiatives with Israel (even when prior agreements had been made). In November 1947, Mufti Hajj Amin Husseini refused to agree to the terms of the UN Partition Plan to establish two states (a Jewish and Arab state) – which by the way would have given Palestinians much more land. The Mufti made clear no Jews would be allowed in a Palestinian state and that he would not agree to any plans that included a Jewish state. Yasser Arafat succeeded the Mufti, refusing to accept the state of Israel. In fact, he mounted, via the PLO, terrorist attacks on Israel. When Anwar Sadat signed a peace treaty with Israel, Arafat and the PLO joined with other Arab League countries from 1977 to 1989 to punish Egypt and reject Egypt as a member. The Oslo Accords resulted in immediate suicide bombings all over the streets of Israel that targeted innocent civilians – all in an effort to destroy any existence of an Israeli state. In July 2000, at the Camp David Summit, Israel Prime

Minister Ehud Barak aimed to create a strong peace agreement with Arafat to introduce peace to all people in the Middle East by offering many concessions to Arafat in return for Arafat to recognize the state of Israel's right to exist. Despite numerous concessions, and the chance to truly create lasting peace, Arafat refused. Instead, the Palestinian Authority immediately declared a war of terror ("al-Aqsa Antifada") on Israel – once again attacking innocent civilians despite Israeli concessions and attempts to make peace. More than 1,100 Israelis were murdered. Next, in August 2005, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel aimed for peace again - unilaterally evacuating all of the Gaza Strip and the northern West Bank, including forcefully removing every Israeli person from that land, as a way to make peace. Israel left in place all of the agricultural land it had worked hard to create and preserve for the people of Gaza. In response, the Palestinians launched missiles and rockets at Israel from the Gaza Strip. In June 2007, Hamas took over the Gaza Strip (Israel was not in the Gaza Strip at all). Since then, there have been tens of thousands of nonstop missiles, bombs and rockets fired at Israel from Gaza. In 2008, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert offered PLO Chairman and PA President Mahmoud Abbas a huge peace proposal. Abbas wouldn't even listen – he rejected it immediately. Abbas either wanted the boundaries of Palestine from 1967 or nothing. One year ago, Abbas rejected the United States more recent proposal – which Abbas refused to even hear. ***In case it is not yet clear – the ultimate purpose of a cease fire would be to negotiate a peaceful solution in the Middle East and end the violence. But calls to destroy all of Israel and to eliminate its right to exist by Hamas and other proxy groups will never cease – that has been made clear through history.

7) The road to peace is easy. As soon as Hamas releases Israeli hostages – problem solved. Yet Hamas has made very clear that it is not going to happen. So, you are calling for a cease fire in the name of peace, but Hamas wants no part of peace.

8) No other Arab countries are taking in Palestinians. What about the dozens of other countries who could be helping in this situation? Israel is trying to defend itself and the lives of its citizens after a horrifically brutal attack, **while also** providing protection to innocent Palestinians. While Hamas is hiding underground, in tunnels and beneath holes created in civilian buildings – innocent Palestinians are being left aboveground with no protection. Hamas is the governing body in Gaza – yet where is Hamas to protect its people? Hamas doesn't want what is in the best interest of Gazans – Hamas is hurting its own. Perhaps your resolution should call for Hamas to stop ignoring the best interests of and stop hurting its own Palestinian innocent civilians, as well as innocent Israeli civilians!!!!

9) Israel drops millions of leaflets in Gaza to warn civilians to move out of harms way. What other nation does that? NONE. Israel makes public announcements to warn innocent civilians to move to places of safety. What other nation does that? NONE. Yet many innocent civilians have died in Palestine because Hamas refused to let them move despite warnings from Israel. So how would a call for a cease fire protect innocent civilians from Hamas – their own leader who is hurting them? Israel is trying to save them while still fighting for the lives and existence of Israelis.

THE SQUEAKY WHEEL SHOULDN'T ALWAYS WIN. Just because people are loudly calling for a cease fire - that doesn't make it right, moral, or even effective. In fact, the only impact will be more ammunition to kill, annihilate and destroy Israeli Jews and the 2 million Palestinians who live in Israel. That is the only effect your cease fire will have. You will be choosing essentially to dehumanize, eradicate, and kill Israelis (mostly Jews) – shame on

you. Your job is to reflect and represent the identities and well being of all of your constituents. This resolution is discriminatory, antisemitic, and ineffective. You can do better. You should do better.

Thank you,
Daina Garonzik

From: Ilana Lowy <ibdunetz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 10:04 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: From the depths of my heart- Thank you!

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 Ms. Deb Jung, Mr. Opel Jones and Mr. David Yungmann,

Thank you from the depths of my heart for opposing CR-22 2024.

Last night was my first time facing chants for Hamas and the annihilation of the world's only Jewish state-Israel- in person.

I was taunted, called a whore, a clown and a baby killer. All I did was hold up a sign that said "Free the Hostages".

I ache so badly for the division in our county and country. I looked around at the Anti Israel crowd last night and saw young faces that could be peers of my 7 and 9 year old, tossed in this chaos of shouting. We are all simply humans, wanting to be seen and heard. It is clear the divide has deepened with Ms. Walsh's ill-informed and non inclusive rhetoric of CR-22.

So Thank you again.

Finally, I hope if HOCO feels the need to revisit this resolution, it includes a means of healing for ALL of our communities and includes mention of the atrocities of the innocent Israeli lives that were taken- not only the palestinians. To hear Liz repeat (3Xs I believe) that she is standing up for the all innocent lives lost, but doesnt see how she is isolating the Jewish community + appears Pro Hamas by not acknowledging the Terror attack of 10/7, or freeing of hostages is deeply upsetting to a point where I wonder if she is fit to serve as a neutral opinion of reason.

With MOST respect and thanks,

Ilana Lowy

From: Jonathan Edelman <jedelman.law@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 10:30 AM
To: CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Ball, Calvin; Jung, Debra; Jones, Opel; Yungmann, David; Rigby, Christiana; IzzyPatoka@gmail.com; Caren Leven; Congressman Jamie Raskin; Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Subject: Re: CR 22-2024 - Liz Walsh

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 Ms. Walsh:

Your attention seeking performance last night was truly shambolic. Your colleagues must detest your continuing presence on the Board (the community surely does).

If your goal was to embarrass yourself then mission accomplished. You actually quoted the raging Jew hater and terrorist supporter Cori Bush. How much lower can you sink? Perhaps next time you should invite Louis Farrakhan to enlighten us all on his foreign policy views. Like you, Mr. Farrakhan cares about protecting all civilian lives (unless they are Jewish).

At this point, the only thing missing from your platform is a call for the USA to send weapons and funds directly to Iran/Hamas.

Thanks,
Jonathan

On Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 12:45 PM Jonathan Edelman <jedelman.law@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Howard County Council:

Please see the attached letter, which is self explanatory.

Thank you.

From: Manar Dajani <manar.i.dajani@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 6:49 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Re: CR22-2024- Ceasefire resolution

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.]

I am very disappointed by the vote, as you see, how do you see a genocide occurring and not vote to end it? Is this what you would have done had you witnessed the holocaust in front of your eyes? Say it's irrelevant to our county?

I have lost over 100 members of my family and friends!!

THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT IMPACTS ALL OF HUMANITY! I am deeply disgusted.

On Fri, Feb 2, 2024 at 3:59 PM Manar Dajani <manar.i.dajani@gmail.com> wrote:

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,

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

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

From: Rene C. Wasserkrug <mmewass@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 10:56 PM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov
Cc: CouncilMail
Subject: Voting 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.]

Council Members Jung, Jones and Yungman:

It was not an easy decision for my husband and me to attend the Council session last night. We had been alerted that there would be angry demonstrators and we know many people who were too afraid to attend. Those of us opposed to this resolution were greatly outnumbered by those in favor of it and the atmosphere outside the building was tense and unnerving while we waited to enter. We appreciated the significant police presence outside and inside as well.

It is truly unfortunate that Ms. Walsh put forth this resolution for the many reasons that you, Ms. Jung and Dr. Jones articulated. It is astonishing that she cannot understand why the Jewish community saw it as unbalanced, misleading and most of all, not a County Council matter. It was obvious by the atmosphere last night that it has contributed to tremendous division and animosity in our community. I have lived here for over forty years and never thought I would experience what I did last night in Howard County. I am afraid that Pandora's box has been opened and that it will take a long time for the fear and anger that have been stirred up to be contained.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this resolution and for voting against it. Many of us who were opposed were not sure that our voices would be heard and that logic would prevail when so many were clamoring for it to pass.

Sincerely,

Rene Wasserkrug
Retired Howard County Teacher

From: safamasoud21@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 11:12 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Re: Resolution CR22-2024

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

Good Morning, I am constituent and I am very disappointed about the decision you all

Thank you
Safa Masoud

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

From: Serap Davaz <serapdavaz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 6:57 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Shame

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear council members -

As a constituent and a resident of Howard County since I was 5 years old, I have never felt this level of shame and disgust by the decisions made! Your inability to call for a cease fire and demand the Biden administration to do the same is a blatant denial of humanity.

Given the fast paced desire to vote and lack of public hearing - every single one of us knew what you were doing and what the outcome one was going to be. You have permanently lost trust and votes.

While the bombs continue to fall upon Gaza as rain, on a civilian population that without hesitation is being genocided, a county with a massive Palestinian population to not call a ceasefire blatantly disregards the thousands of family members our friends and neighbors combined have lost and continue to lose. It's a blatant denial of humanity, a clear sign of Arab lives not mattering, disregard of the Islamaphobia within our county and a continuous LACK of leadership.

I am disgusted and sick to my stomach. Shame on all of you...

Serap Davaz Kealey
Sent from iPhone

Please excuse any mistakes

From: Uzma H <uzma710@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 12:44 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Disgust at ceasefire rally yesterday

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

Mr Jone, Ms Jung, Mr Yungmann , Ms Rigby, I have been living in Howard county and paying taxes to the county since 1994. I am very disappointed in your vote against the cease-fire resolution. As you heard, or maybe even witnessed yesterday, the display of utter barbarianism and disgusting behavior from the opposing side, holding signs to nuke Gaza, and yelling , violently pushing and spitting in the faces of people who are peacefully standing there and protesting is something I would never have imagined from people in this county. You did not witness or hear or see any signs disrespecting anyone , any country, any faith from the supporters for a ceasefire. You are essentially Justifying these people's lack of manners and aggressive behavior by not condemning their behavior and putting out statements calling out such violent display of support. You have lost my and my communities support.

Uzma

From: Zoobia Chaudhry <zoobiaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 3:42 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Re: Resolution CR22-2024 calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

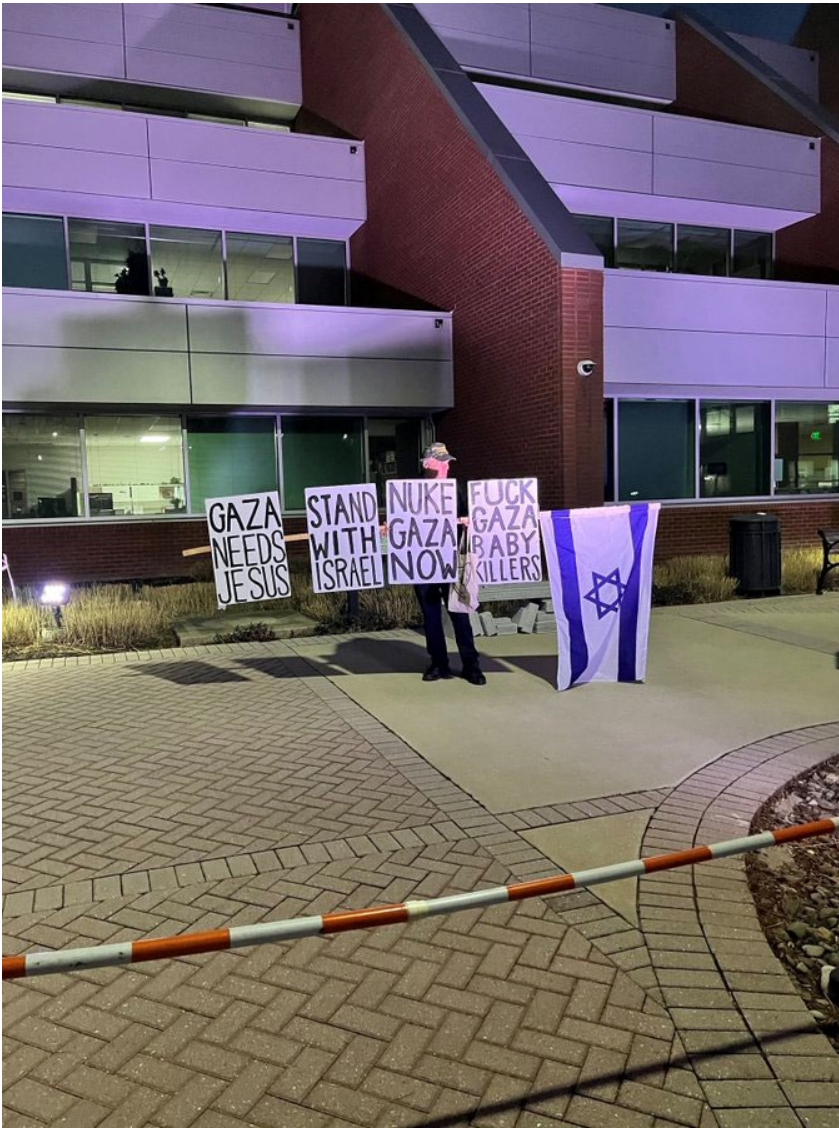
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Dear Howard County Council,

I, a resident of Howard County, feel extremely disappointed that the ceasefire resolution did not pass last night. Chairwoman Jung mentioned that she is voting No as she did not think it was outside the scope of any county councilmembers job. I am attaching a picture of one of the protesters from last night to let you decide if this is your job or not.

Thank you.

Zoobia Chaudhry



On Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 5:01 PM Zoobia Chaudhry <zoobiaw@gmail.com> wrote:

Peace be upon all of you!

I am Dr. Zoobia Chaudhry. I live in old Ellicott City in Council District 1, and I'm represented by Councilmember Liz Walsh. I am with the group Baltimore health care workers for Palestine. I would like you to support **CR22** Ceasefire resolution as we witness 100+ days of genocide in Gaza, it's crucial for us as concerned Maryland residents and taxpayers to take a stand. As a physician I have been esp. concerned about the attack on hospital and healthcare workers. I have been in touch with a few physicians on the ground in Gaza. Among them is Dr. Ebrahim Matar who works as an internist working in ICU and cardiology in the Gaza Hospital. He was living in the hospital for the last 4 months not only to help with patients but also to take refuge. He has not only been posting the dire situation in the hospital but also the emotional and physical toll this conflict has taken on him. Few weeks ago, his hospital was raided by Israeli forces and he was forced to leave. Now he is a refugee on the streets and still not able to see

his family because of the limited movement between north and south Gaza. He writes beautiful prose poetry and I will read a line from it:

I have seen all of this, oh God. I have seen people rushing to the hospital after the shelling, covered in blood, sand, and ashes. I have seen their faces, filled with shock, as if they had no idea what had just happened, as if they couldn't comprehend the magnitude of the event.

I sat with someone who talked to himself, wondering, 'All these wounded and martyrs were like us an hour ago. They were with us just a while ago in life. When will it be our turn?'"

I have wondered why this situation has such an impact on a lot of us. It may be because of what we identify to be. Part of our identity is who we are born as, and who we grow up to be. As a Muslim most of us here testifying have carried the pain of suffering of fellow Palestinians for as long as I was able to read or listen to the news. As a physician it hurts me to see my fellow health care worker suffer. Now part of my identity is being an American and the pain is compounded as the US is backing Israeli military operations with our taxpayer money. And if you do not identify as any of the above then I implore you to call on your humanity to further this resolution to call for a ceasefire and allow us to act like, well like human beings, and help us call an end to this senseless violence.

Thank you

Zoobia Chaudhry
8120 winding ross way,
Ellicott city MD 21043

From: Anne Hoke Attorneys <annehokelaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:07 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Cease Fire Resolution

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

I agree wholeheartedly with Chair Deb Jung that this topic is not one that should be taken up by local government. Anne E. Hoke, Esq.
Sent from my iPhone

From: Janet Schreiberstein <janet@schreibmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 9:37 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution demanding an immediate cease-fire

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 to Members of the Howard County Council:

I am writing to ask you to vote against the motion, CR22-2024, that calls for an imposed immediate unilateral ceasefire in the Hamas-Israel war. Such an imposed ceasefire would only benefit the terrorist organization Hamas.

It pains me greatly to see the suffering of the Gazan population. It is not what Israel wants. But **Hamas** has **created** this situation. They have long openly declared their goal to rid Israel of Jews, in fact to go after Jews everywhere. One example was on October 13, less than a week after the original slaughter in Israel, when Hamas leaders called for an assault on Jews all over the world.

When Hamas perpetrated the massacre on Israeli men, women, children and babies on October 7th, they demonstrated the reality of their stated goals in the most inhumanly grotesque way. They multiplied the misery they inflicted by kidnapping hundreds including women, old people, children and infants. Since that October day, Hamas has made it explicitly clear that they will do this type of horrific attack **again** and **again**.

Faced with this reality, Israel had a choice. They could lie down and surrender with the sure knowledge that their babies, children and adults would **again** and **again** be savaged. Or Israel could go after the terrorist organization that is a threat not only Israel but to the United States and other countries around the world. Hamas needs to be destroyed for Israel's safety, indeed for their very continued existence, and for the safety of other nations. Who has the courage to tackle this near impossible task? Only Israel.

A friend recently asked me **why** did Hamas attack in such a devastating way? The only explanation that made sense was that Hamas wanted to provoke a huge military response from Israel.

Why would Hamas want to basically force Israel to go into Gaza to root out Hamas? Because Hamas knew that they had **created** the scenario in which they could not be reached and eliminated without many, many **of their own people** being killed. Israel has an ethical Code of Military Conduct guiding them. Such an ethical code has been immensely tested because Hamas has spent years building an infrastructure that uses their civilians and their people's homes, hospitals, schools and mosques as shields behind which Hamas could hide and fight, attack, and fight again. It was their goal to cause suffering of their own people so they can parade that suffering in front of the world. They had been setting the stage for this tragedy for years.

Under other "normal" circumstances of war, a call for a ceasefire sounds like a caring idea. But in this case it is a call to control and stop only one side. The ceasefire called for would only force Israel into letting Hamas continue to survive and strike again and again. It would leave the hostages in dire abandonment, and it would force Israel to back off from completing the mission of destroying Hamas.

Those who participate in war, tell us that “war is hell.” Nothing can change that. Not even for a country such as Israel who has tried to minimize the casualties as much as it can. Hamas must be destroyed. The agonizing job has been handed to the Israelis.

If the war comes to an end because of an imposed ceasefire, all of Hamas’ evil intents would be licensed. It would tell other terrorist organizations and nations acting like terrorist organizations that they are free to act as Hamas has done. It would condemn the victim (Israel), and reward the immoral perpetrators (Hamas) who show no regard for the lives of others or of their own people.

For all these reasons and more, please vote against the resolution. Please encourage your fellow council members to do the same.

With sincere regards,

Janet

Janet Schreiberstein
5204 Woodam Ct
Columbia, MD 21044

From: safamasoud21@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 9:22 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Re: Resolution CR22-2024

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

Good Morning, I am constituent and I am very disappointed about the decision you all made.

Thank you
Safa Masoud

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

From: Larry Surowitz <larrysur@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 6:42 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Council Person Walsh's irresponsible, dangerous, and divisive resolutions

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 Councilmember Walsh,

I was deeply saddened that you used valuable council time and money sponsoring a resolution calling for an Israeli-Hamas ceasefire. Such a resolution was irresponsible and dangerous for several reasons.

- The resolution failed to acknowledge Israel's right and obligation to defend itself against the potential for future terrorist atrocities by Hamas. The atrocities committed by Hamas on October 7 as well as those committed by Hamas since Israel left Gaza in 2005 have been horrific and resulted in the deaths of thousands of Israelis. There is no reason to believe that a cease fire would prevent future atrocities. Indeed, it would allow Hamas the opportunity to regroup and perpetrate more attacks on the State of Israel and Jewish people as it has promised to do. Your resolution failed to acknowledge that Hamas's only goal is the destruction of Israel and the removal of Jewish people from Israel.

- **Much more importantly, your resolution had absolutely nothing to do with your responsibility for governing the affairs of Howard County government!** Our system of government designates powers and responsibilities for local government, state government, and the Federal government. **The role of international affairs is the responsibility of the Federal government's Department of State, and not the Howard County Council.**

- Equally important, while you were meddling in the affairs that are designated to the Federal government, the Howard County Council is neglecting to tend to the affairs of Howard County. Here are just a few examples:

- On January 15 we had a snow event. On that date, I had to pick up an individual flying into BWI Airport. While driving to and from the airport, Howard County's roads were not plowed. **Even Cedar Lane, a major thoroughfare to Howard County General Hospital was completely snow covered endangering the lives of Howard County Citizens in need of emergency medical care.** Instead of interfering in the role designated for the Federal government, I suggest your time would have been better spent ensuring our roads are plowed when it snows, especially roads that lead to the county's only hospital.

- Crime is out of control in our community. Instead of interloping in the role of the United States Department of State, I suggest you concentrate on how to reduce crime in our community.
- Crime is out of control in our community. Instead of interloping in the role of the United States Department of State, I suggest you concentrate on how to reduce crime in our community.
- Taxes in our community are high and some in our community cannot afford to pay them. Instead of using your roles as a county councilperson to meddle in international affairs, please devote your efforts on how to operate our community more efficiently.

You were elected to the Howard County Council to govern the affairs of Howard County, not the Federal Government. Please “stay in your lane” and avoid sponsoring meaningless resolutions that have the propensity to divide the community.

Respectfully,

Larry Surowitz

11267 Skilift Court,
Unit A
Columbia, MD 21044

From: safamasoud21@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 9:45 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Re: 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.]

Good Morning, I am constituent and I am very disappointed about the decision you all made.

Thank you
Safa Masoud

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

From: sproutko@verizon.net
To: [CouncilMail](#)
Subject: CR 22-2024 and going forward
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:05:40 AM

[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:

It is with heavy hearts that we write this letter following the Council's vote Monday night to reject resolution CR 22-2024. Although we believe the council made the correct decision, we are troubled because of the negative impact that the resolution itself had on our community. For many years, Jews and Muslims lived together in Howard County without incident. CR 22-2024 caused tremendous anxiety to both Jews and Muslims alike. No matter which way you as Council Members voted, one group was going to feel disenfranchised, defeated and angry.

We thank the Council members who voted "No," and in particular, Chair Jung and Council Member Jones, for their well-reasoned explanations of their votes. We are hopeful that a county-established Interfaith Advisory Council will have the collective wisdom, in whatever it chooses to accomplish, to do so, in Chair Jung's words, considering "shared values of civility and inclusion."

While the result of the vote was positive and fully justified, we must call attention to Council Member Walsh's hypocrisy and cynicism. It was unfathomable to listen to her claim a lack of understanding of how the resolution could have been viewed as controversial, and that, in her words Monday night, "this bill is not divisive." She must have been aware of the chants of "from the river to the sea" or "genocide supporters" from backers of the bill just outside the George Howard building Monday night. She is certainly aware of the social media vitriol being spewed in the weeks leading to the vote. No matter how she feels about the situation in the Middle East, it is disingenuous and cowardly to claim ignorance of the controversy.

But in the initial hope that it had been ignorance alone, there were attempts to educate. Indeed, following an early-November meeting with leaders from the Jewish Federation of Howard County, Council Member Walsh admitted in a Facebook post on her own page that "By my own language...I have caused many of you pain and fear and disappointment...I have added to our own suffering right here at home." She started that post by calling it an "apology." At the time, we were willing to consider it sincere. Now, we realize it was a cynical attempt to pacify.

Council Member Walsh also demonstrated her true colors by not acceding to multiple requests, including from Jewish clergy, to amend her resolution to even out its message. For example, an acknowledgement of Hamas as a terrorist organization, or even a simple recognition that a ceasefire must be accompanied by return of all hostages held by Hamas and other Islamic jihadist groups, would have gone a long way to balancing the controversial issues in the resolution, thereby tamping down the associated emotions in our community. In the end, her rejection of such entreaties, when juxtaposed with her statement Monday night that "this should be about human lives and the sanctity of all human lives," demonstrates the ultimate hypocrisy. Howard County, which prides itself on civility, inclusion and mutual understanding, deserves better quality leadership than the extreme, uncivil actions and words of Council Member Walsh. We hope that Council Member Walsh can now see how dangerous her words are and that she is hurting all of Howard County. Stated somewhat differently, Council Member Walsh has brought out the worst in us – which should weigh heavily on her given her supposed concern for humanity.

Finally, consistent with Chair Jung's statement Monday night, we additionally respectfully request that she consider the matter of a Council resolution on this topic closed permanently, and that she reject any future attempts to resubmit such a resolution for Council vote. Given the rancor and division that CR 22-2024 caused, any future similar resolutions would serve only one purpose: to exacerbate those conditions in the Howard County community. Certainly, that cannot be what our elected officials hope to achieve.

Hopefully, we can now start the healing process that our community needs and deserves.

Sincerely,

Marshall and Lynn Kohen, Howard County residents since 1992

From: Mona Bah <monajbah@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:36 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR22

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

Council Members Jones, Rigby, Jung, and Yungmann,

I am a constituent and I am disappointed in your vote against a ceasefire resolution.

Do better for our community and humanity.

From: safamasoud21@aol.com
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 10:58 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Re: Resolution CR22-2024

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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

Good Morning, I am constituent
and I am very disappointed
about the decision you all
made.

Thank you
Safa Masoud

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

From: jandikaplan@verizon.net
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2024 10:52 PM
To: CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict5@howardcountymd.gov
Cc: CouncilDistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilDistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilMail
Subject: Thank you!

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.]

Councilmembers Jung, Yungmann, and Jones,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for rejecting CR 22-2024 and thereby rejecting terrorism. I appreciate the difficulty you must have faced in the days leading up to the vote. What I really appreciate is your focus on matters that are relevant to Howard County, ones that you and only you were put in office to address.

On a personal note, I was deeply disappointed by the introduction of this one-sided legislation and the disinformation that inspired it and the disinformation that it inspired to continue. My father was born in Poland in 1934 to a secular Jewish family. My father and his mother left Poland legally and eventually ended up in British Mandated Palestine supported by the Polish government in exile. Most of the rest of his family was killed by the Nazi's. I never in my life thought that I would stand on Howard County public property **within 20 feet of dozens of people calling for my death, proudly and loudly**. That was a direct consequence of CR 22-2024.

On February 5, I stood in front of the George Howard Building to remind the council that Hamas STILL has hostages several of whom are Americans, a fact conspicuously missing from the legislation. While I was holding up a sign of hostage, what I heard from my "choose civility" neighbors was "from the river to the sea". This is not a dog whistle, it is an antisemitic bull horn. If you don't believe me, believe Hamas...it's in their charter both in the original one from the 80's and the sanitized one from the late teens. Please check it out.

For Councilmember Walsh, I ask that you watch this video of the mother of one of the American hostages. <https://www.facebook.com/reel/358674333686579>

I welcome a continued conversation.

Sincerely,
Julie Kaplan
Fulton, MD

PS It was nice running into you and meeting you at Bare Bones on Monday evening Councilmembers Jung and Yungmann!

From: IRA and Julie KAPLAN <jandikaplan@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 3, 2024 1:25 PM
To: councildistrict4@howardcountymd.gov
Cc: councildistrict1@howardcountymd.gov; councildistrict2@howardcountymd.gov;

councildistrict3@howardcountymd.gov; councildistrict5@howardcountymd.gov; councilmail@howardcountymd.gov

Subject: Reject terrorism, reject CR 22-2024

Councilmember Jung,

Please reject CR 22-2024. Supporting this resolution condones terrorism and does not align with the values of the United States, Maryland, Howard County, or my family. Let's focus on uniting the county on local issues.

I'd welcome the opportunity to have a conversation about this matter. Many thanks for your consideration,

Julie Kaplan

Fulton, Maryland

[Watch: Hamas Leader Vows to 'Sacrifice Martyrs' in Another Oct. 7-Style Attack \(msn.com\).](#)

[Gaza Strip - The World Factbook \(cia.gov\)](#)

[Hamas in 2017: The document in full | Middle East Eye,](#)

[Hamas Orders Limited Interactions with Christians - International Christian Concern \(persecution.org\)](#)

[Top 11 gay-friendly cities in the world - Wise](#)

[Exclusive: Gay Man Who Fled Gaza Speaks About Hamas Repression - I24NEWS](#)

[Environmental Innovation in Israel: A Laboratory for Climate and Sustainability Solutions - Medika Life](#)

[AHRC46NGO42_050321.pdf \(un.org\)](#)

From: nadine bernard <nadine.bernard@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2024 4:28 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution regarding Gaza

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.]

Good afternoon,

I am sending this email to say I believe Deb Jung and the council did the right thing by not addressing the resolution. Howard County has no ability to make any concrete change in the policies of Israel or Palestine. It takes away from the time the council can do constructive remedies for the County and not spend time airing those issues they can not control. Howard County is well known for its community efforts, inclusiveness, and the desire to work with each other for the benefit of all of us. This issue could promote a wedge in our community by creating divisiveness, percolating a cause that I dare say all Howard Countians are aware of and therefore forcing them to take sides in an issue we can not control. I say bravo to the council for recognizing this should be handled by our federal government and not get in the weeds surrounding a volatile event.

It is essential to know when to stand back and not make proclamations, just as it is for times when it is pertinent to make proclamations in regard to the daily lives of Howard Countians. Some families may have connections to those in Gaza or Israel, and they need to take the appropriate steps to discuss this with their Senators, Congress people, and other pertinent people who actually have the ability to affect change.. This is not for the county to attempt to solve an issue that they can not solve, nor support efforts to air grievances we not control.

Respectfully,

Nadine Bernard
86766 Doves Fly Way
Laurel, MD 20723
443-745-6845 cell

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Jonathan Edelman <jedelman.law@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 3:40 PM
To: CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Ball, Calvin; Jung, Debra; Jones, Opel; Yungmann, David; Rigby, Christiana; IzzyPatoka@gmail.com; Caren Leven; Congressman Jamie Raskin; Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Subject: Re: CR 22-2024 - Liz Walsh

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. Walsh:

Your anti-American, pro-Iran cohorts working for the Council on American-Islamic Relations purport to be the "nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization".

That's quite ironic. Because in the entirety of the Arab world there is NO DEMOCRACY. And NO CIVIL RIGHTS.

With that in mind, when can we expect your resolution calling for the immediate implementation of democracy in Iran? Or Syria? Or Jordan? Or Egypt? Or Lebanon?

I have no doubt the peace loving folks at CAIR would support such an important resolution.

Thanks,
Jonathan

On Tue, Feb 6, 2024 at 10:30 AM Jonathan Edelman <jedelman.law@gmail.com> wrote:
Good Morning Ms. Walsh:

Your attention seeking performance last night was truly shambolic. Your colleagues must detest your continuing presence on the Board (the community surely does).

If your goal was to embarrass yourself then mission accomplished. You actually quoted the raging Jew hater and terrorist supporter Cori Bush. How much lower can you sink? Perhaps next time you should invite Louis Farrakhan to enlighten us all on his foreign policy views. Like you, Mr. Farrakhan cares about protecting all civilian lives (unless they are Jewish).

At this point, the only thing missing from your platform is a call for the USA to send weapons and funds directly to Iran/Hamas.

Thanks,
Jonathan

On Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 12:45 PM Jonathan Edelman <jedelman.law@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Howard County Council:

Please see the attached letter, which is self explanatory.

Thank you.