

PROPOSED

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, CONDEMNING THE BRUTAL, UNPROVOKED ATTACK ON THE STATE OF ISRAEL BY HAMAS; SUPPORTING THE STATE OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF; URGING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by Commissioner Michael Udine)

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, during the Jewish festival of Simchat Torah when hundreds of thousands of Israelis were on their way to synagogues to celebrate the holiday and the sabbath, Hamas and aligned terrorists launched a massive, unprovoked war on Israel;

WHEREAS, Hamas sent hundreds of terrorists to infiltrate Israel from the Gaza Strip ("Gaza") by land, air, and sea in a coordinated and planned attack against the State of Israel and her people and launched thousands of rockets indiscriminately against Israeli civilian population centers;

WHEREAS, this heinous assault took place just after the 50th anniversary of the start of the multi-front 1973 Yom Kippur War against Israel;

WHEREAS, upon entering Israel, these terrorists began indiscriminately slaughtering Israelis and abducting hostages in towns in southern Israel;

22 WHEREAS, since the beginning of the attack on October 7, 2023, Hamas has
23 launched over 3,500 rockets into southern and central Israel;

24 WHEREAS, since October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists have killed over 700 Israelis
25 and visitors from nations around the world and injured more than 2,500 others;

26 WHEREAS, Hamas and other terrorist organizations have reportedly taken over
27 130 of men, women, and children hostage and are holding them against their will under
28 inhumane conditions in Gaza;

29 WHEREAS, American citizens in Israel are among those killed and captured by
30 Hamas during this war;

31 WHEREAS, Hamas is a United States designated Foreign Terrorist Organization
32 which exercises control over Gaza, an area of land Israel captured in 1967 during a
33 defensive war and from which Israel fully withdrew in 2005;

34 WHEREAS, as a result of this unprovoked assault and invasion, Israel has
35 declared a state of war against the terrorist Hamas organization;

36 WHEREAS, in defense of Israeli and foreign citizens visiting Israel, Israel has
37 begun targeting the terrorist organizations in Gaza as well as providing increased
38 protection within the State of Israel from further assaults;

39 WHEREAS, as a result of Hamas' use of commonplace, civilian equipment such
40 as bulldozers, paragliders, and rubber boats in its assault on Israel, Israel has ordered
41 the complete closure of Gaza;

42 WHEREAS, Israel is currently attempting to free the hostages that were kidnapped
43 and brought to Gaza, to damage the terrorists' infrastructure, and to prevent any terrorist
44 organization in Gaza from being able to harm Israel and its citizens and visitors again;

WHEREAS, many countries have expressed their unequivocal support of the State of Israel and its right to defend its residents from these unprovoked and vicious attacks in a manner designed to promptly end such attacks and deter similar attacks in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Board strongly supports the sovereignty of the State of Israel, and recognizes its right to self-defense and to protect its citizens, NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners ("Board") condemns Hamas' brutal unprovoked war on the State of Israel and her citizens and visitors.

Section 2. The Board strongly supports the State of Israel's right to defend itself and its citizens and visitors against such attacks including, but not limited to, taking all necessary actions against these terrorist organizations, all necessary actions to protect itself and its citizens and visitors, and all appropriate action seeking the safe return of the hostages taken by Hamas and other affiliated terrorist organizations.

Section 3. The Board urges President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and the United States Congress to reaffirm the United States' commitment to Israel's security and provide emergency resupply and other security, diplomatic, and intelligence support to the State of Israel.

Section 4. Severability.

If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be

legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this day of , 2023. **PROPOSED**

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

By: /s/ Oren Rosenthal 10/09/2023
Oren Rosenthal (date)
Senior Assistant County Attorney

OR
Israel Reso
10/9/2023
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