

Submitted by: Assembly Member
Bronga,
Assembly Member Martinez
and
Assembly Member Rivera
Reviewed by: Assembly Counsel's
Office
For reading: February 27, 2024

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2024-79

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY URGING OUR
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH LEAD
TO AN IMMEDIATE BILATERAL CEASEFIRE IN THE ISRAEL-HAMAS
CONFLICT.**

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage strives to be an inclusive, welcoming, and safe place for all, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or national origin, and is proud of our cultural diversity, boasting the three most culturally diverse high schools in the nation with over 100 languages spoken in the Anchorage School District; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage has a history of public engagement on events happening around the world when those events impact members of our community, and the Israel-Hamas conflict is personal and painful to many Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage is a Bridge Builder and Welcoming City that values making the world a better place through the virtues of peace, mutual respect, understanding, compassion, and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the taking of hostages and the willful killing of civilians, no matter their faith, ethnicity, or national origin, constitute grave breaches of international law, and all people have a right to dignity, security, freedom, and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, between October 7, 2023, and January 10, 2024, the Israel-Hamas conflict has claimed the lives of over 1,400 Israeli civilians and 24,000 Palestinian civilians, with several Americans counted among the dead on both sides; and

WHEREAS, the temporary 6-day ceasefire from November 24 to November 30, 2023, facilitated the most significant release of hostages and the most substantial influx of humanitarian aid into Gaza; and

WHEREAS, as of January 10, 2024, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) estimates that 85% of the people in Gaza have been displaced; and

WHEREAS, without an immediate long-term ceasefire, restoration of

necessities, and delivery of adequate humanitarian aid, hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk of death, injury, and permanent displacement;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

Section 1. The Anchorage Assembly encourages our residents to continue supporting the Bridge Builder values of peace, mutual respect, understanding, compassion, cooperation, and public engagement when world events impact members of our community.

Section 2. The Anchorage Assembly reaffirms the dignity inherent to all human beings and condemns antisemitism, Islamophobia, and ethnically or religiously motivated violence in all its forms.

Section 3. The Anchorage Assembly calls on our federal delegation to support negotiations that lead to an immediate bilateral ceasefire, the release of all hostages, the safe passage of food, water, medical supplies, and other life-saving humanitarian aid into Gaza, and ultimately long-term peace and security for the people of Israel and Palestine.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Chair of the Assembly

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk