

Resolution In Support of The California Democratic Party's Commitment to Israeli-Palestinian Peace and Opposition to Occupation, Settlement Expansion, and Unilateral Annexation of Territory in the West Bank

WHEREAS The 2020 California Democratic Party platform has rightly stated a commitment to Israel's security and recognized the right of both Israelis and Palestinians to be free to govern themselves each in their own viable states; As the Trump administration upends decades of bipartisan support for the two-state solution, and the Israeli government accelerates settlement expansion and veers towards annexation in the West Bank, a peaceful two-state resolution is threatened.

WHEREAS The U.S. State Department's 1978 opinion defined Israeli settlements in the West Bank as illegal under the Fourth Geneva Convention; This policy, in effect for over 40 years, was reversed by the Trump administration on November 18, 2019; In response, on November 21, 2019, 106 members of Congress wrote to the U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to express their vehement opposition to the State Department's decision to consider Israeli settlements legal; This decision greenlights annexation and threatens the two-state solution.

WHEREAS On December 6, 2019, the United States House of Representatives passed H. Res. 326 with 192 cosponsors including 41 representatives from California, which explicitly supports a two-state solution, opposes settlement expansion and draws a red line against unilateral annexation of West Bank territory, and recognizes that roadblocks to a peace agreement "pose a threat to the ability to maintain a Jewish and democratic state of Israel and the establishment of a viable, democratic Palestinian state."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Canada Crescenta Democratic Club supports both a commitment to Israelis and Palestinians right to govern themselves each in their own viable states, and opposes **the occupation, settlement expansion, and unilateral annexation** of territory in the West Bank.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be sent to the Chair and Co-Chair of the Democratic National Committee, members of the California DNC delegation and California's Democratic Party Chair and Co-Chairs.

References:

1. UN Security Council, “Special Coordinator Reports Largest Expansion of West Bank Settlements in 2 Years” (June 20, 2019),
<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13853.doc.htm>
2. David M. Halbfinger, “Netanyahu, Facing Tough Israel Election, Pledges to Annex a Third of West Bank,” New York Times, (September 23, 2019)
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/10/world/middleeast/netanyahu-israel-west-bank.html>
3. Letter of the State Department Legal Advisor, Mr. Herbert J. Hansell, Concerning the Legality of Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Territories of 21 April 1978,
https://www.hlrn.org/img/documents/USSDLegalAdvisorHansell_ltr.pdf
4. The United States Congress, “Letter to the Honorable Mike Pompeo, Secretary of State”
<https://andylevin.house.gov/sites/andylevin.house.gov/files/112119%20Letter%20to%20SecState%20on%20Israeli%20settlements%20FINAL.pdf>
5. The United States Congress, “H. Res. 326: Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding United States efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution,” (April 25, 2019)
<https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hres326/BILLS-116hres326rh.pdf>

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