## S. RES. 484

Condemning the terrorist organization Hamas.

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

**DECEMBER 5, 2023** 

Mr. Manchin (for himself and Ms. Collins) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

## RESOLUTION

Condemning the terrorist organization Hamas.

- Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides the right to free speech, to peacefully assemble, and to practice one's religion without fear of persecution;
- Whereas the First Amendment does not provide the right to engage in defamation, or to threaten or incite violence in support of the ideology of terrorist organizations;
- Whereas there have been protests across the United States in support of Hamas in the wake of the ongoing conflict between Israel and terrorist groups in the Gaza Strip;
- Whereas the majority of protests have been peaceful assemblies in support of Israelis and Palestinians;

- Whereas a small minority of individuals has used the conflict to sow animosity and violence in support of terrorist groups such as Hamas;
- Whereas Hamas is a terrorist organization, supported by the current Iranian regime, dedicated to destroying the Jewish state of Israel through any means necessary;
- Whereas Hamas does not protect or support the Palestinian people, but uses them to shield its weapons and militants;
- Whereas Israel, exercising its right to self-defense, uses its military to shield its people;
- Whereas antisemitism is fundamental to the principles of Hamas, whose heinous attacks led to the single worst mass killing of Jews since the Holocaust;
- Whereas constructive dialogue on peaceful co-existence between Palestinians and Israelis has been co-opted by Hamas to further create division between the majority of the Palestinian and Israeli people who are simply seeking a peaceful and prosperous life; and
- Whereas terrorist organizations, acts of terrorism, and the misinformation perpetrated by terrorist organizations should never be defended or sympathized with: Now, therefore, be it
  - 1 Resolved, That the Senate—
  - 2 (1) condemns the October 7, 2023, attack on
  - 3 Israel and the Jewish community by the terrorist or-
  - 4 ganization known as Hamas;
  - 5 (2) recognizes that religious freedom is a uni-
  - 6 versal human right;

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(3) encourages respect for the right of individ-
uals to peacefully assemble and practice their reli-
gion freely without perpetrating violence on others;

- (4) acknowledges the right of Israel to defend and secure its nation;
- (5) acknowledges the effort that must be made by Palestinians and Israelis to reach a resolution that opposes the objectives of terrorist organizations and creates prosperity for all individuals in the region; and
- (6) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to oppose all forms of terrorism.

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