

Senate Resolution No. 1729

By Senators Erickson, Alley, Baumgardner, Billinger, Blasi, Bowers, Claeys, Corson, Dietrich, Fagg, Kerschen, Kloos, Longbine, Masterson, McGinn, Peck, Petersen, Ryckman, Shallenburger, Steffen, Straub, Thompson, Tyson, Warren and Wilborn

1-8

1 A RESOLUTION condemning the October 7 attacks on the State of Israel
2 and reaffirming Kansas' support and cooperation with the State of
3 Israel.
4

5 WHEREAS, Israel was founded following the killing of 6,000,000
6 Jewish people during the horror of the Holocaust and World War II; and

7 WHEREAS, On October 7, 2023, Hamas launched air, ground and sea
8 strikes on Israel, targeting Israel's civilian population; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States has considered Hamas to be a terrorist
10 organization since 1997; and

11 WHEREAS, Hamas has murdered, burned, raped, beheaded and
12 disfigured over 1,400 Israelis, including hundreds of women, children
13 and elderly, throughout southern Israel while concurrently launching
14 indiscriminate rocket attacks across the entirety of Israel; and

15 WHEREAS, Hamas deliberately and systematically used sexual
16 violence against women as a weapon; and

17 WHEREAS, American citizens were among those murdered on
18 October 7; and

19 WHEREAS, The attacks on October 7 resulted in the deadliest day for
20 Jewish people since the Holocaust and the deadliest day on Israeli soil
21 since the Yom Kippur war in 1973; and

22 WHEREAS, Over 240 hostages were taken from Israel into Gaza,
23 including over 100 women, children and elderly; and

24 WHEREAS, The hostages taken included Americans and citizens
25 from around the world; and

26 WHEREAS, The ages of hostages range from nine months old to 86
27 years old and include over 30 hostages under the age of 16; and

28 WHEREAS, Over half of the hostages taken on October 7 remain
29 unaccounted for with no end to their captivity in sight; and

30 WHEREAS, Hamas' actions have resulted in a 400% increase in
31 antisemitism nationally, including multiple incidents at the University of
32 Kansas; and

33 WHEREAS, Local Jewish communities have had to increase their

1 security, similar to the security presence required after the 2014
2 antisemitic attacks in Overland Park; and

3 WHEREAS, The people of Kansas share a connection with the people
4 of Israel and view Israel as a trusted ally: Now, therefore,

5 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we condemn
6 the unprovoked attacks on the State of Israel and reaffirm Kansas' support
7 and cooperation with the State of Israel; and

8 *Be it further resolved:* That we demand the unconditional safe return
9 of the hostages; and

10 Be it further resolved: That we unequivocally support Israel's right to
11 exist, defend itself and protect its citizens from terrorism and harm; and

12 *Be it further resolved:* That we place the blame for all violence that
13 occurred on October 7 and thereafter on Hamas, who in their founding
14 charter have stated their intent to exterminate both Israel and the Jewish
15 people at any cost; and

16 Be it further resolved: That we reject all forms of antisemitism,
17 including threats against Jewish people and Jewish institutions; and

18 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an
19 enrolled copy of this resolution to Consul General Maor Elbaz-Starinsky,
20 Director of AJC/JCRB Kansas City, Gavriela Geller, Jewish Federation
21 of Greater Kansas City president and CEO, Jay Lewis and David Soffer.