

State of Arizona



Joint Legislative Proclamation

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, during the Jewish holy day of Simchat Torah, the US-designated terrorist organization known as Hamas launched an unprecedented, unprovoked attack on Israel; and

Whereas, Hamas has carried out brutal and heinous attacks on civilians, including murdering at least 1,000 innocent people, injuring hundreds more, and taking hostages, including American citizens; and

Whereas, Hamas' stated goal is the destruction and genocide of Israel and its people; and

Whereas, the State of Arizona stands with Israel's right to defend itself and rescue those who have been captured, kidnapped, or are missing; and

Whereas, the State of Arizona stands with the Israeli people in this time of pain and suffering, and mourns for those who have needlessly lost their lives and for those who have lost loved ones; and

Whereas, our State and the nation of Israel share spiritual, economic, and social ties and values that bind our societies together, enjoying a cordial and mutually beneficial relationship since 1948, which grows stronger with each passing year; and

Whereas, as the Arizona Legislature stated in Senate Concurrent Resolution 1019, filed in the Arizona Secretary of State's office on March 27, 2015, there are those in the Middle East who have continually sought to destroy Israel from the time of its inception as a state, and those same enemies of Israel also hate and seek to destroy the United States; and

Whereas, the State of Arizona condemns all acts of terrorism, which are broadly defined and classified as class 2 felonies under Arizona law, and prays for a peaceful resolution to this conflict; and

Whereas, Israel celebrated her 75th anniversary of independence this year.

Now, therefore, we hereby proclaim that we:

1. Denounce the horrific acts of war against Israel and support Israel's right to defend itself.
2. Stand alongside our Jewish friends and unequivocally condemn the hateful terrorist acts of Hamas and their acts of anti-Semitism, joining with the many other states and elected leaders around the country, and call on other states to do the same.
3. Demand that Hamas immediately end their violent acts of aggression, safely return hostages, and return the bodies of the deceased.
4. Call on President Biden to take immediate action against Iran for orchestrating this horrific rampage on civilians and to eliminate Hamas.
5. Call on President Biden to take immediate action to protect the innocent children who are in harm's way and rescue American hostages.

6. Direct that the copper dome of the Arizona State Capitol be illuminated blue in support of Israel, beginning on the evening of October 11, 2023, through the evening of October 13, 2023.
7. Call on Arizona's officials in the Executive branch to hold accountable any individuals who engage in any acts of terrorism supporting Hamas, prohibited by A.R.S. § 13-2308.01 and other state laws.
8. Request that the Governor order all state flags to be flown at half-mast in support of Israel.

Dated this 11th day of October 2023



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Toma".

Ben Toma
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
Arizona House of Representatives

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren Petersen".

Warren Petersen
SENATE PRESIDENT
Arizona State Senate