

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA**  
**2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A**  
**Honolulu HI 96822**

**In the Senate**  
**November 2nd, 2023**

**Senate Resolution 03-24**  
**For First Reading**

**A RESOLUTION**

**Supporting Palestine and Palestinian Freedom and Calling for an Immediate Ceasefire in the Gaza Strip**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

- WHEREAS*, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 11,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,
- WHEREAS*, the conflict between Israel and Palestine has been escalating for decades for several reasons, but namely due to religious persecution, foreign governance involvement, land rights<sup>1</sup>; and,
- WHEREAS*, this has led to increasing tensions, hostility, casualties, and violence, such as the Arab-Israeli War of 1948 and the Six-Day War of 1967 where millions of Palestinians were forced off their homelands, effectively becoming refugees<sup>2</sup>; and,
- WHEREAS*, the Israeli government has continued to build illegal settlements<sup>3</sup> on Palestinian land, contributing to further displacement of Palestinian residents; and,
- WHEREAS*, as of 2023, over 2 million people total live in United Nations Recognized Palestinian refugee camps<sup>4</sup> which span the Gaza Strip, with Palestinian Refugees and their descendants making up nearly two-thirds of the Gaza Strip population<sup>5</sup>; and,

---

<sup>1</sup> "Israeli-Palestinian Conflict" Center for Preventative Action  
<https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/israeli-palestinian-conflict> (accessed October 31, 2023)

<sup>2</sup> "What Is U.S. Policy on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict?" Council on Foreign Relations  
<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/what-us-policy-israeli-palestinian-conflict> (accessed October 31, 2023)

<sup>3</sup> "Israel's Settlements Have No Legal Validity, Constitute Flagrant Violation of International Law, Security Council Reaffirms.", United Nations  
<https://press.un.org/en/2016/sc12657.doc.htm> (accessed October 29, 2023)

<sup>4</sup> "Where We Work" The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East  
<https://www.unrwa.org/where-we-work/gaza-strip> (accessed October 29, 2023)

<sup>5</sup> "Palestine Refugees" The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East  
<https://www.unrwa.org/palestine-refugees> (accessed October 29, 2023)

**APPROVED BY THE 111TH SENATE ON THE 2nd OF NOVEMBER 2023**

*WHEREAS*, following the election of the Hamas in 2007, the Israeli government has imposed a blockade on land, air, and sea. Thus, the Gaza Strip is dependent on Israel for water, electricity, telecommunication, and other utilities<sup>6</sup>; and,

*WHEREAS*, this has severely diminished the quality of life of Gaza Residents, with 63% of residents food insecure or dependent on international assistance, 44.6% of the population unemployed, and 95% of the population unable to access clean water<sup>7</sup>; and,

*WHEREAS*, the Israeli forces have continued to attack the already fragile Gaza population (e.g., the 50-day Israeli attack in 2014 where over 2,000 Palestinians were killed and the 2021 attack by Israeli forces where more than 200 Palestinians were killed)<sup>8</sup>; and,

*WHEREAS*, on October 7th, 2023, the governing Palestinian militant group Hamas launched an attack against Israel. Following this, Israel declared war on Hamas<sup>9</sup>, and thus, Palestinians who reside in the Gaza Strip; and,

*WHEREAS*, to counter, Israel's government has completely stopped the supply of electricity, food, water, sanitation, and fuel to Gaza, worsening the humanitarian crisis there<sup>10</sup>; and

*WHEREAS*, Israel has also responded with an alarming number of airstrikes—nearly 400 air strikes<sup>11</sup> in one day in one instance—which has resulted overall in over 8,000 deaths<sup>12</sup> and 15,000 injuries in Gaza, and over 1 million Gaza residents displaced; and,

*WHEREAS*, the atrocities enacted are incredibly concerning seeing that the Gaza Strip is only 140 square miles, roughly the size of Las Vegas, which makes it one of the most densely populated places on earth; and,

---

6 Schmitt, M.N, Louise Arimatsu, Tim McCormack, eds. 2010. *Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law*. TMC Aser Press

7 "Where We Work" The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East  
<https://www.unrwa.org/where-we-work/gaza-strip> (accessed October 29, 2023)

8 "Gaza conflict 2014: 'War crimes by both sides' - UN" BBC  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-33223365> (accessed October 29, 2023)

9 "Israel is at war with Hamas. Here's what to know" CNN  
<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/28/middleeast/israel-hamas-gaza-war-explained-week-3-mime-intl/index.html> (accessed October 31, 2023)

10 "Gaza's limited water supply raises concerns for human health" AP News  
<https://apnews.com/article/gaza-israel-water-humanitarian-crisis-cfeab00fefd03c2877495c4dcd09> (accessed October 31, 2023)

11 "Israeli airstrikes escalate across Gaza, destroying homes and killing dozens of people at a time" PBS  
<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/israeli-airstrikes-escalate-across-gaza-destroying-homes-and-killing-dozens-of-people-at-a-time> (accessed October 29, 2023)

12 "Israel pounds Gaza from air and land; Biden presses for more aid" The Washington Post  
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/10/29/israel-gaza-war-communication-blackout/?utm\\_campaign=wp\\_the7&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=newsletter&wpsrc=nl\\_the7](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/10/29/israel-gaza-war-communication-blackout/?utm_campaign=wp_the7&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpsrc=nl_the7) (accessed October 30, 2023)

*WHEREAS,* almost half of Gaza’s population is under 18 years old<sup>13</sup>, as opposed to the United States, where only 22.3% of the population is under 18<sup>14</sup>; and,

*WHEREAS,* seeing no end in sight, the casualties are growing at a gravely concerning rate, not only due to airstrike violence but also due to dwindling supplies<sup>15</sup>; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,* the ASUH strongly condemns the actions of the Israeli government during this time; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,* the ASUH echoes the sentiments of numerous human rights organizations and fearless Palestinian advocates, fighters, and residents who are pleading for an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,* the ASUH is committed to advocating and extending our unwavering support to all those affected by the Israel-Palestine conflict, especially innocent civilians and Palestinians who have been displaced and are experiencing their community’s trauma; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,* the ASUH, deeply empathizing with the continual struggle against land occupation, firmly stands with Palestine and stands with Palestinian liberation; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,* the ASUH is calling for the University of Hawai’i to take a vocal and unapologetic stance supporting Palestine, Palestinian freedom, and Palestinian students and faculty; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,* the ASUH is calling for the University of Hawai’i to respect students’ right to use their free speech to support Palestine without fear of retaliation; and,

*BE IT RESOLVED,* the ASUH is calling for the University of Hawai’i to take immediate actions to support Palestinian students’ academic, social, emotional, financial, and cultural well-being; and,

---

<sup>13</sup> Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2022 *Occasion of the Palestinian Child Day*.  
[https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/Press\\_En\\_ChildDayE2022.pdf](https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/Press_En_ChildDayE2022.pdf) (accessed October 29, 2023)

<sup>14</sup> Percent of the Population Under Age 18 - Population Reference Bureau  
<https://www.prb.org/usdata/indicator/age18/snapshot/> (accessed October 31, 2023)

<sup>15</sup> Aid worker describes life in Gaza amid constant bombardment - PBS  
<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/aid-worker-describes-life-in-gaza-amid-constant-bombardment> accessed October 31, 2023)

*BE IT RESOLVED,*

the ASUH is asking for the University of Hawai'i to cease conducting research that is funded by the Israeli government and military because of its ties to weapons of mass destruction; and,

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,* that copies of this resolution shall be sent to:

the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair Alapaki Nahale-a and Members, President David Lassner, Provost Michael Bruno, Vice Provost for Student Success Lori Ideta, the Graduate Student Organization, Ka Leo O Hawai'i, Senator Brian Schatz, and Senator Mazie Hirono.

INTRODUCED BY: Quinn Goo, Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE SENATE RESOLUTION 03-24**

**Aye(s):** Vice-President Macedo, Treasurer Pale, SAL Tabangay-Hata, SAL Roydson, Senator Goo, Senator Stanford, Senator James-Foree, Senator Pintor, Senator Quinn, Senator Hermoso, Senator Li **[11]**

**Naye(s):** **[0]**

**Abstention(s):** Senator Martin **[1]**

**APPROVED BY THE 111TH SENATE ON THE 2nd OF NOVEMBER 2023**