

Madalyn Letellier

From: Connolly, Mike - Rep. (HOU) [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2024 7:01 PM
To: All City Council
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: Support for an enduring ceasefire (Resolution 24-0089)

To the Honorable Members of Somerville City Council:

I am writing to reiterate my call for a Ceasefire Now and to submit the following written testimony for the public record in support of an enduring ceasefire in Gaza:

Thank you, Council President Ewen-Campen and honorable members of the Somerville City Council. My name is Mike Connolly, and I have the honor of representing parts of Somerville and Cambridge in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. I'm writing this evening to reiterate my call for a Ceasefire Now and to express support for Resolution 24-0089.

I stand in solidarity with Jews, Muslims, Palestinians, Israelis, and people of all faiths and backgrounds who are calling for peace, for de-escalation, for the safe return of hostages, for the delivery of humanitarian aid, and for an end to the killing of innocent civilians. I condemn Hamas and its horrific attack on Israel, and I support Israel's right to defend itself. At the same time, I recognize the systemic oppression of the Palestinian people by the Israeli government and how this has contributed to a horrific cycle of violence. I believe that Palestine deserves to be free. In the words of our Congresswoman, Ayanna Pressley, "Vengeance is not a foreign policy doctrine."

Thank you to Council President Ewen-Campen for bringing this issue forward for discussion and for the council's thoughtful consideration. I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of a ceasefire resolution this evening.

Yours in service,

Mike Connolly

Rep. Mike Connolly

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