



BC DEMS RESOLUTION 2024-02

WHEREAS, the United States is one of the most powerful countries on earth and has an outsized influence on world affairs through foreign aid; and

WHEREAS, \$881,788 U.S. military funding is contributed to Israel yearly by Benton County Taxpayers¹; and

WHEREAS, the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel and resulting Israeli escalation has resulted in antisemitism and Islamophobia in Benton County and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, we are proudly pro-peace, and pro-humanity. That is why we are proudly demanding a lasting ceasefire and an end to violence; and

WHEREAS, we understand that the Palestinian people are not Hamas; and Israeli people are not the Israeli Defense Forces; and

WHEREAS, all people deserve to live without fear, hunger or death brought upon by war; and

WHEREAS, peace in the world should be a goal for all nations; and

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled “The State of Israel shall take all measures within its power to prevent and punish the direct and public incitement to commit genocide in relation to members of the Palestinian group in the Gaza Strip”²; and

WHEREAS, President Biden stated "...when we choose to stand together and recognize the common hope that binds all humanity, we hold in our hands the power to bend the arc of history."; and

WHEREAS, President Obama said, "In today's wars, many more civilians are killed than soldiers; the seeds of future conflicts are sown, economies wrecked, civil societies torn asunder, refugees amassed, and children are scarred."

¹ U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights. "U.S. Military Funding to Israel Map." U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights, 2020, <https://uscpr.org/activist-resource/us-military-funding-to-israel-map/>

² International Court of Justice. *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the Gaza Strip (South Africa v. Israel)*, 26 January 2024, <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/192/192-20240126-pre-01-00-en.pdf>



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Central Committee of the Benton County Democrats call upon our Democratic leaders at both the state and federal level, to use the United States' power and influence in the world to bring warring nations to the negotiating table to work toward a lasting peace.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Central Committee of the Benton County Democrats call upon our Democratic leaders at both the state and federal level, to use the United States' power and influence in the world to distribute humanitarian aid and cease distribution of munitions.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY: CATHERINE STEARNS (PCP, pct. 16) and HOLLY SHUTTA (PCP, pct. 3)

APPROVED BY THE BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 15, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabe Shepherd", is written above a horizontal line.

Chair Gabe Shepherd

February 15, 2024

Date