

(FA) H.R. 3685 End Support for Terrorist Groups Act Hamas (3 campaign)

Thank you for contacting me with your views regarding H.R. 3685, the Hamas International Financing Prevention Act. Your thoughts are important to me as I work to effectively represent you in Congress.

As you may know, Hamas is an Iranian-backed Palestinian military group that has been a U.S.-designated Foreign Terrorist Organization since 1997. On May 10, 2021, fighting broke out between Hamas and Israel after clashes between Israeli police and Palestinian protests culminated with Hamas firing long-range rockets into Israel.

On May 20, 2021, both sides agreed to a cease-fire, ending 11 days of attacks. As a veteran of the Iraq war, I have seen firsthand the devastation warfare brings on civilians, and my heart goes out to those caught in this conflict.

H.R. 3685 was introduced by Representative Josh Gottheimer (NJ-5) on June 4, 2021 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Financial Services Committee. If enacted, H.R. 3685 would impose financial sanctions on foreign persons, agencies, and governments that assist Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or their affiliates.

Congress has been working hard to address the hardships that have resulted from this conflict. Israel has long been a critical ally for the United States and I believe that maintaining and strengthening the relationship between the United States and Israel is vitally important for both nations. Our countries are closely connected by our fundamental respect for democracy, the rule of law, individual rights, and a free market economy. We also have a common interest in combating violence and terrorism. I believe we can and should work together to curb violence in the region.

The best ideas for making the government work better come from the American people, not from Washington, and I'm thankful to hear from you regarding H.R. 3685. Although I am not a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee or the Financial Services Committee, I will be certain to keep your thoughts in mind should this or related legislation be brought up for consideration in the House.

If you would like to hear more about what's happening in Congress, I invite you to visit my website, <https://wenstrup.house.gov/>, where you can email me your thoughts or concerns on this or any other federal issue important to you, and sign up for my email updates.

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