## Senator Charles E. Schumer

Majority Leader 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

## Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

478 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to cosponsor and vote in favor of the joint resolutions of disapproval <u>introduced</u> by Senators Sanders, Welch, Schatz and Merkley regarding several specific major arms sales to the government of Israel.

The joint resolutions of disapproval would suspend the transfer of some of the weapons that the Israeli government has used in strikes that have killed thousands of civilians, including aid workers and journalists, in Gaza over the last year. Independent human rights and conflict monitors have thoroughly documented the Israeli military's use of weapons from the United States in attacks that have killed Palestinian civilians. President Biden has <u>described</u> Israeli government attacks as "indiscriminate." The joint resolutions of disapproval would block certain sales of joint direct attack munitions (JDAMs) and <u>tank shells</u>, which the Israeli military has repeatedly used in attacks that have killed civilians in densely populated areas. The resolutions do not implicate missile defense systems.

Israeli military attacks have <u>killed</u> more than 40,000 Palestinians and decimated Gaza's <u>hospitals</u>, <u>schools</u>, <u>critical infrastructure</u>, and <u>residential housing</u>. Human rights organizations have concluded that the Israeli military has <u>repeatedly violated</u> international humanitarian law. Humanitarian groups have stressed that Israeli forces <u>continue</u> to restrict the delivery of humanitarian aid as hundreds of thousands of people in Gaza <u>are</u> on the precipice of starvation and <u>suffering</u> from the spread of deadly diseases, including <u>polio</u>.

The Israeli military is also <u>carrying</u> out attacks in Lebanon, including recent strikes in densely populated areas of Beirut, <u>that demonstrate</u> a similar disregard for the protection of civilians.

Continued arms transfers to the Israeli government are <u>contrary to U.S. law</u> and the Biden administration's own arms <u>transfer policy</u>, <u>which include restrictions</u> on arms transfers to any country based on human rights, international humanitarian law, and humanitarian assistance criteria. For example, U.S. law prohibits military aid to governments that restrict the delivery

of U.S. humanitarian assistance. As <u>demonstrated by the National Security Memorandum 20</u> process, the Biden administration has not complied with these standards.

The Senate will soon have the opportunity to demonstrate that it opposes further suffering and stands for the rule of law and the protection of civilians by supporting the joint resolutions of disapproval introduced on September 25. We endorse Senator Sanders, Welch, Schatz and Merkley's resolutions and urge all Senators to cosponsor and vote in favor of their passage.

Signed,

5C Cultural Center About Face: Veterans Against the War Ajkal Weekly Newspaper Antiracist Alliance Bangladeshi American Advocacy Group - BAAG Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace **Broadway Elite Brooklyn For Peace Broome County Peace Action CODEPINK Upper Hudson Valley** CenterCerns, Maryknoll Sisters Codepink Long Island Columbia County for Palestine **Concerned Families of Westchester Crescent School Teachers** DAWN Doctors Against Genocide **Episcopal Priests** Fellowship of Reconciliation - USA Franciscan Justice Circle Mid-Hudson Valley, NY Friends Committee on National Legislation New York Genesee Valley Citizens for Peace Green Education and Legal Fund Green Party of New York Hofstra University Professors IfNotNow New York City In Pursuit Collective Ithaca Committee for Justice in Palestine Jewish Voice for Peace - Albany Jewish Voice For Peace - Westchester

Jewish Voice for Peace-Buffalo Judson Memorial Church Kabab Guys L.I.Alliance for Peaceful Alternatives Labor-Religion Coalition of NYS Long Island Alliance for Peaceful Alternatives Long Island DSA Long Island Progressive Coalition MPower Change Action Fund Mamas 4 A Free Palestine Masjid As-Salam Morningside Quaker Meeting Muslim Peace Fellowship Muslim Solidarity Committee NY Progressive Action Network (NYPAN) NY-09 Neighbors NY-10 Neighbors Nassau Chapter of the Working Families Party National Iranian American Council New York Chapter New York Progressive Action Network New York State Council of Churches North Country Peace Group Ocean Bites & Mediterranean Pax Christi Hudson Valley, NY Pax Christi Long Island Pax Christi New York City Pax Christi New York State Peace Action Bay Ridge Peace Action Geneseo Peace Action Le Moyne (PALM) Peace Action Manhattan Peace Action New York State Peace Action of Staten Island **Progressive East End Reformers** Project SALAM Sacred River Healing Schoharie County Peace Makers Shoresh NYC Chapter Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Westchester Sisters of Mercy

Solidarity Committee, Capital District South Country Peace Group Staten Island 4 Palestine Students for Justice in Palestine at Le Moyne College Suffolk For A Ceasefire Syracuse Democratic Socialists of America Syracuse Peace Council Syracuse for Palestine and Global Liberation Syracuse for Palestinian and Greater Liberation The Hampton Institute: a Working Class Think Tank The Queer Palestinian Empowerment Network **Treetops Tree Service** UNY - United Methodist Task Force on Peace w/ Justice in Palestine/Israel United Muslim Alliance of Albany Upper Hudson Peace Action VOCAL-NY Veterans For Peace - NYC Chapter 34 Veterans For Peace, Tom Paine Chapter Vigil For Yemen WESPAC Foundation, Inc. Walkabout Clearwater We Are Revolutionary Western New York Peace Center Women Against War World Can't Wait