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June 14, 2011

Co-Sponsor the Palestinian Accountability Act

Dear Colleague,

Please join me and co-sponsor legislation that will finally bring some accountability to the Middle East peace process and compel the Palestinian Authority to disavow terrorism and recognize Israel's right to exist.

We all want peace in the Middle East, but not peace at any cost, not a forced peace that sacrifices the safety and security of our ally Israel, a shining beacon of democracy in a region overshadowed by tyranny. Its strength and security is directly tied to our own—a strong and secure democracy in the Middle East is absolutely vital to American security. Both Israel and the Palestinian Authority must fully participate in the peace process. So far the Palestinian Authority has not done so. It continues to incite hatred against Israel, encourage terrorism against innocent Israelis, and has entered into a coalition with Hamas, the terrorist organization that has vowed Israel's destruction. To this day, the Palestinian Authority has still refused to even accept Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state. No real or lasting peace with the Palestinians can ever exist in such circumstances.

I ask you therefore to join me in bringing some accountability to the peace process and compelling the Palestinian Authority to come to the table as a partner equally committed to peace. Among its various provisions, the Palestinian Accountability Act will require the following actions from the Palestinian Authority as prerequisites for any U.S. aid:

- That it end corruption, promote democracy, and stop influencing elections in Palestinian territories;
- Strongly condemn terrorism, bring terrorists to justice, and end the incitement to violence and hatred;
- Recognize Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state;
- And either exclude Hamas from government or publicly bind it to this Act's requirements.

In addition, should the United Nations or any of its entities unilaterally recognize a Palestinian state, the United States will withhold funding from the United Nations until the Secretary of State has certified that the Palestinian Authority has met this Act's requirements. The Palestinian Authority must be held accountable for its actions.

I invite you to be an original co-sponsor of this legislation. If you are interested, please email Aindriu Colgan or call him at 53647.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Walsh". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive script.

Joe Walsh
Member of Congress