

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

**CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

*5/9/2019 – Curtis Hall, Sacramento*

**RESOLUTION 2019-15**

*Affirming CDP's Commitment to Human Dignity & Basic Human Rights in the Israeli-Occupied Territories, & to Ending the Gaza Blockade*

**WHEREAS**, Historically the United States has joined other nations in funding health care, educational, and civic infrastructure in the Israeli occupied Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza, in fall 2018 that Trump administration decided to cut \$25 million it had planned to give to the East Jerusalem Hospital Network (a group of six hospitals, some church-run, providing care primarily to Palestinians), eliminated its \$300 million contribution to the UN agency running schools and health clinics for Palestinian refugees, and slashed more than \$200 million for humanitarian and development aid in the West Bank and Gaza; and

**WHEREAS**, The more than decade-long Israeli-Egyptian blockade of the Gaza Strip has caused severe damage to infrastructure—with wastewater treatment plants lacking capacity (causing severe water pollution), with Palestinians having access to only a few hours of electricity a day, with poverty at 53 percent, with food insecurity at 68 percent, and a palpable loss of hope and rising desperation among the population, it is imperative that the United States resume life sustaining humanitarian support; and

**WHEREAS**, The untenable status quo—rocket firings into Israel from Gaza, regular air and artillery bombardment of Gazan neighborhoods, and sniper shootings of unarmed civilians at the fence, with hundreds killed and thousands wounded since March 2018—threatens to deteriorate into even more devastating warfare;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County urges Congress and the administration to reinstate funding for the U.N. Works & Relief Agency, hospitals and civilian infrastructure that can help sustain human rights and dignity for Palestinians as they endure life under occupation, blockade and political upheaval.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Democratic Party of Sacramento County recognizes the right of nations to embargo arms, but urges Congress and the administration to demand that Israel and Egypt end their blockade of the Gaza Strip in favor of immediate international involvement to take decisive measures to end all hostilities from all parties, to provide for international observers and monitoring of the borders and entry of goods, and to restore a semblance of normal life for the area's 2 million Palestinians while ensuring the security of all parties and advancing toward a political settlement in the region.

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*Sponsor: David Mandel*