



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

**March 4th, 2024**

## **MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Courthouse, Room 201, 901 North 9th Street, Milwaukee WI 53233**

**RE: Letter of Support - Ceasefire Resolution**

**Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors,**

We are writing to express our wholehearted support for the resolution that will go in front of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors calling for an immediate and permanent cease-fire and the delivery of humanitarian aid and de-escalation in Israel and in Gaza and the West Bank.

As concerned members of our community and believers in the principles of justice, human rights, and peace, we encourage the Board to take a stand on this critical issue. We must act now – for the long-term safety of both Israelis and Palestinians, a ceasefire is a vital first step in a long series of diplomatic processes that should, over time, guarantee the safety and statehood of all civilians going forward.

Well over 30,000 Palestinians, the vast majority being civilians and over 12,000 being women and children, have now been killed with thousands more missing under the rubble. The disproportionality of violence, forced displacement, famine, and a plethora of violations of international law continue to taint the legacy of the Israeli government and its military operations.

In order to work toward appropriate and effective peace negotiations in Gaza, there must be an end to the constant violence that has already taken irreplaceable lives and intensified the lack of access to basic resources, freedoms, and infrastructure in the strip. As both national and international humanitarian organizations and governments continue to call for a ceasefire, it's time for Milwaukee County to support an end to the violence. And as a county whose identity is built largely on activism, progressivism, and humanitarianism, Milwaukee County must take a stand. We urge all of you to support the resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire, including hostage exchanges, de-escalation, reconciliation, and humanitarian aid to Gaza.

In service,

Francesca Hong  
State Representative  
76th Assembly District

Darrin Madison  
State Representative  
10th Assembly District

Dear Committee Members,

I'm writing today in support of resolution 24-240. We know war, destruction, and genocide are morally wrong no matter who is committing the acts. At BLOC, we fight for Black liberation each day and we know that our fights are tied to the fights of other oppressed peoples. We have seen the rise in the militarization of the police and a lack of investment in our community. Whether it's local or national, our communities are struggling, yet we always have money for war and policing.

This resolution calls for a permanent ceasefire by Israeli occupation forces in Palestine. Our government has given away BILLIONS of our tax dollars to Israel; over \$8 million comes from the city of Milwaukee alone. That money could be used to improve our schools, parks, and healthcare in Milwaukee County, but it goes to bombs and bullets that have killed over 30,000 Palestinians and displaced 1.8 million more. There is an imminent threat of a ground invasion in Rafah by Israeli occupation forces. Rafah is the Palestinian town Israel forced Palestinians into under the false promise of safety - when Rafah is invaded, thousands of Palestinians will be indiscriminately murdered with weapons and funding provided by our tax dollars. It is already clear a majority of Americans demand a ceasefire: two-thirds of the general American public, and 80% of Democrats in particular, want a ceasefire. Those Democrats include the Democratic Party of Milwaukee County, which passed a ceasefire resolution on February 18 in a near-unanimous vote, reflecting the will of voters in this Democratic stronghold. The values and principles of Milwaukee County residents are not compatible with genocide in Gaza, and that is why you must support this resolution.

The community continues to speak out and we implore you to listen to your constituents and the residents of Milwaukee.

The choice is clear: stand against genocide or support it. There is no in-between. Do the right thing and send Resolution 24-240, as submitted, to the full Board with the recommendation of the Committee.

With Hope,

Angela Lang  
Black Leaders Organizing for Communities Executive Director



**Kenneth Ezell:** my heart goes out to every last one of them i.cant imagine The pain and hurt there feeling . Y here should be an alternative to the violence and unfit living forced upon them immediate 🙏 stop of war against them.. our leaders must stand up and protect them at any cost .

**Martez:** My heart goes out to all the people in this Isreal-Hamas war over 30,000 have died including over 8,000 innocent children, from senseless bombings,shooting, and being held captive without the proper food, medicine or water. Our President and Supreme Court need to come together and sign off on this ceasefire. There is no way it should have taken this long to respond we are all human at the end of the day .

**Gertrude Martin:** This war is senseless the lives lost are in the hundreds of thousands with many being elderly, women and children. For the many people that are dying as we speak are suffering in this war they are without food, shelter or medical supplies. We need to have our President call for a ceasefire immediately.

**Chuck Grayson**

I believe that the way things are going is very inhumane the way people should be treated with respect and dignity isn't no where near how people should be treated. It should never come to a point where you need a food drop from planes because it's an active plot of hate on the ground. Families dying their rights stripped away that's no way to live, where's the democracy the love or is it that much hate? Cease Fire 🔥

**TO:** my ffirst thoughts is how did they get to that point? And at this day and age how can us as humans let politics,money,oil over weigh a humans life. Like our we different from the animal we say we better then? I look on t.v. thats all i see. Ik that a cease fire is good now but whats next. Where do "they"go? This makes me look into they history of this, cause for it to get this far its deeper then whats in frount of us.

**Shannon Jackson**

My heart goes out to everyone affected by the surprise attack by Palestinian Hamas on Gaza Israel. Many lives are getting taken including innocent children from senseless bombing and shootings. Our leaders need to all come together and sign off on the ceasefire .

**Tamer Malone :**

I think it's crazy that the surprise attack happened. It's heartbreaking to know that over 5,400 ppl have lost their lives due to this attack. Women , Men , and Children's lives were cut short. At what point do we all sit and think that this type of behavior is not okay? There are still hundreds being held hostages hoping and praying that their lives are spared. It's a truly terrifying experience and I can't even imagine what is going through their heads or the fear and hurt that they're enduring. My heart goes out to all of those who are effected , and I'm deeply sorry for those who were not able to make it out.



### Ceasefire Statements

**Shanice-** I feel like we need an immediate ceasefire because the things that are happening are just not right. There are innocent people being put in danger because we have people that are too selfish to end things. Everyone deserves a chance to live within a world without fear. Biden, you as president are ok with upsetting your own people for your own political gain. How many more people will have to die for everyone to understand that you can reach an agreement without so much being shed. What's happening to me is very sad. I couldn't imagine the looks of innocent children trying to figure out what's going on and why these things are happening to them. It makes me angry that we have the budget to send weapons to harm people and have to demand a budget to be made to fix the things we need fixed here in America. I feel like we are leading up to a war that we the people are not asking for.

**Tajeta-** I honestly feel like we should cease fire as well due to the many different death also I feel like it can help prevent war. The articles talk about how Biden refuses to go through with the law for ceasefire and the problem with Israel and muslim and Palestinian rights. Also I feel as though they want it to be a war between us civilians as a way to keep us from coming together to take them down and expose the truth

**Devonta-** In my opinion we been needed CEASEFIRE every day we wake up to some nonsense that should of been stopped it's 2024 we still FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM that's depressing we been through a lot of this and still is because it still happening every time we try to make a Change or do better y'all make away to rain on our parade all we asking for is some Help that's we need and should be getting I thought we was all equal in this work y'all move unequal I'm just saying that's not right taking people out there homes or they life away because someone wanna take over that's unfair i don't think anyone she be in Hamas' attack on civilians. If we all gotta leave some day why make it more difficult for us ( CEASEFIRE )

**Dawonyae**-I feel like the fire should be taken care of immediately, & I feel like it's also so devastating to hear that there's no support for them and we're Allie's with Palestine so it's more devastating because it can possibly be getting worse. Also there's multiple people funding this horrible war

**Daecorion**-I feel they should cease fire just to keep a mutual peace and understanding between our governments. Also I feel like our government shouldn't participate in other wars, especially negative impacts as such.

**Daevaughn**-This kind of events make me feel so bad because I know that we can help them in some kind of way but we're not that's the problem also why isn't other country's intervening. This is somebody's madness taking place & I know we can do something about it



**Antonio:** That's really messed up and the don't care if kids are around they still doing it and like we tell people in America life is easy you've never been through a struggle until you've been through what they've been through what about their kids dying any point in time that can be attacked so it's all bad for me I don't like the situation cuz it ain't nothing to complain about if you from America that got everything in the world to.

**Terri:** Everyday more innocent lives are lost, displaced, suffering, and it's getting worse. The healthcare system is completely destroyed. The injured are being denied medical supplies and water. Lives, even children, are being destroyed and it's impacting American citizens' families. Their families are being killed or held hostage. It's sad!!

**Steve:** Apart from the obvious ethnic cleansing that we are now party to, I don't feel that my tax dollars should be used to try and fulfill some prophecy of the Bible that I don't believe in. America has a history of supporting an agenda of trying to deliver the "holy land" to God's "chosen people". Furthermore, if God is omnipresent isn't all land holy? Just a thought. Also, a food drop to the same people we're helping kill/displace is insane. Many of us have grown tired of having religious beliefs forced upon us by way of foreign/domestic policy. There's no real separation of church and state in America. Benjamin Netanyahu is a brutal dictator and we need to cut all ties with Israel until he's replaced.

**Maurice:** We all should be treated as one and do whatever it is that needs to be done to find a better solution for the situation at hand and nothing's going to get better if we don't come together and stand as one.

**Leona:** Me personally I really feel like we are living our last days. I feel we are all at war. Ignorance is playing a part in a lot of decisions. Common sense has just left some humans sick of what they are going through and it's not fair. What can you say? Just an example of how wild it can get.

**Michele:** We are living in a cruel world and it seems like all we want to do is kill. It's time to stop the violence. People are acting and being dumb just shows how our world is hurting. I'm all for a ceasefire if it will help stop the killing of our children and their futures.

**Mario:** Killing innocent civilians is wrong. How do we have funds to kill but not heal or help? To my knowledge a ceasefire is an agreement to stop shooting for a period of time but what happens after that back to war? America and other countries should be spending money to preserve life, not end it.



Amari- The attack on Palestinian is going through right now is unfortunate. Sending my condolences. It sucks that they have no food, water, electricity etc. the United States is getting involved by Airdropping care packages over to Gaza. My opinion there is not much we can do as the United States. It sounds like it's not a military option, only a political one. But we are here to help fight in any way possible.

Celeste- I wasn't fully informed about the things that were going on as far as the ceasefire or Palestinian and Israel. But I share compassion because no one should have to go through those unbearable circumstances. I looked forward to being a part of the solution.

Asia- I'm not fully aware of the ceasefire situation but I did hear about the attack on the Palestinians and my heart goes out to them. It's hard to hear how all these people have to go through this! It's very inhumane and unfortunate to put young, old, and innocent families through this horrific time. I believe in respecting and valuing all individuals and their experiences. It's important to promote understanding, respect and empathy in discussions about complex topics like this.

Ronneisha-I don't know much about ceasefire, I do hear a lot about the Palestinians and watched videos my heart goes out to everyone there. I wish more could be done and the war stop, I have no words.

Davonte-I Feel Bad For What The Kids Have To Go Through I don't Know What It's Like To Not Have Water Food etc and to be at war and I mean serious war a lot of People state that their ready for war until it actually happens.!! Understand Now That This World Will Never Be Equal and will always be ruled by the Government.I'm signing the petition because I can't imagine thousands of people dying or being injured for no reason.

Dez. The ceasefire is a very touchy situation and it's unfortunate what the Palestine people as a whole has to suffer through and now be subjected too. They are in a dying need of help. War is never the answer but I'm assuming signing the petition will give the US the future drive to go over and fully help and support the needs of the people over there if they can negotiate with the killers. I support the help and encourage the US to get everyone engaged but at the same time

don't forget they're people who needs the US help already in the US. And we should all have a fair chance at life and everything that a fulfilling life has to offer each human being.



**WISCONSIN COALITION FOR  
JUSTICE IN  
PALESTINE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 1, 2024

**Contact:**  
[Wiscoforpali.org](http://Wiscoforpali.org)  
608-440-9587  
[wiscoforpali@gmail.com](mailto:wiscoforpali@gmail.com)

**Wisconsin Coalition for Justice in Palestine to host Press Conference,  
March and Rally to stand with Palestine and uphold the voices of Palestinian  
community members who have endured tremendous losses in Gaza.**

**Islamic Society of Milwaukee 4707 S 13th St  
Saturday March 2nd - Press conference 12:30pm - Rally and March 1pm**

On Saturday at 12:30 pm, the Wisconsin Coalition for Justice in Palestine, consisting of over 60 member organizations statewide, will hold a press conference to honor the voices of Palestinian community members who have lost loved ones in the genocide in Gaza. Members of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee will speak from their personal experiences of loss and the stark realities of life in the occupied state.

The press conference will culminate in a family-friendly march and rally beginning at the Islamic Society of Milwaukee at 1pm. This is in recognition of the International Day of Action called by national organizations in the Palestinian Liberation movement. This nationwide day of action will uphold our demands for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, an end to US aid to Israel and Hands off Rafah!

The necessity to display global solidarity with the Palestinian people is all the more urgent as the murdered and missing toll in Gaza approaches 40,000 Palestinians, a majority of whom are women and children. Yesterday, Israeli soldiers massacred over 100 starving civilians and injured over 700 as they opened fire on a packed crowd of people waiting to receive food in Rafah. This is yet another crime against humanity perpetrated by Israel with United States aid and weapons.

Rafah, which houses 1.5 million refugees, still faces the threat of a ground invasion from the Israeli Occupation forces and yet there is no call for ceasefire from the Biden administration. Milwaukee recognizes the genocide taking place in Gaza and the occupied West Bank and will continue to act to save the lives of innocent Palestinians.

We stand in solidarity to say Ceasefire Now! End US Aid to Israel and Hands off Rafah!  
In honor of all women, particularly Palestinian women who are enduring unspeakable horrors, we invite everyone to join us for our International Women's day panels at the Islamic Society of Milwaukee 815 W. Layton Avenue, from 3-6pm. The United Nations decreed the theme for International Women's Day this year as "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress." This is impossible when Israel is massacring Palestinian women and children in the tens of thousands.

**FREE PALESTINE  
XXXX**