

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1131

Condemning the murder of Sara Duker and renouncing Palestinian Authority
martyr payments to terrorists.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Mr. GOTTHEIMER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Condemning the murder of Sara Duker and renouncing
Palestinian Authority martyr payments to terrorists.

Whereas this resolution may be cited as the “Resolution to
Stop Rewarding Terrorists”;

Whereas Sara Duker attended high school at the Frisch
School in Paramus, New Jersey, and graduated from
Barnard College, Columbia University, in May 1995;

Whereas, on February 25, 1996, three United States citizens,
Sara Duker of Teaneck, New Jersey, Matthew Eisenfeld
of West Hartford, Connecticut, and Ira Weinstein of New
York City, were killed in a Hamas bus bombing in Jeru-
salem;

Whereas Barnard College President Judith Shapiro remembered Sara as “a person of extraordinary talent and promise”;

Whereas Sara traveled to Israel with Matthew, a graduate of Yale University and a second-year rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary;

Whereas Ira Weinstein, a dual American and Israeli citizen, died of burns suffered from the bus bombing, leaving behind a widow and three children;

Whereas, since 1993, the terrorist group Hamas has killed more than 400 Israelis and at least 25 United States citizens, including Sara Duker;

Whereas the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs estimates that 1,360 people have been killed by Palestinian violence and terrorism since September 2000;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority’s practice of paying salaries to terrorists serving in Israeli prisons, as well as to the families of deceased terrorists, is an incentive to commit acts of terror;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority rewards deadlier attacks of terrorism with even more money;

Whereas, since fiscal year 2015, Congress has mandated the reduction of aid for the Palestinian Authority as a result of their payments for acts of terrorism including, in fiscal year 2017, a dollar-for-dollar reduction of the amount of money that the Palestinian Authority and Palestine Liberation Organization pay to terrorists and their families from the Economic Support Fund aid that the United States provides;

Whereas, on March 23, 2018, Congress passed the Taylor Force Act (Public Law 115–141), bipartisan legislation

which eliminates funds that directly benefit the Palestinian Authority if the Palestinian Authority continues to make payments to terrorists; and

Whereas martyr payments for violence and terror continue to undermine the prospects for peace, making it even harder to achieve a viable Palestinian state: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the attacks on United States citi-
3 zens by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad,
4 Hezbollah, and other terrorist groups and their fol-
5 lowers, and demands that the Palestinian Authority
6 work with Israel to protect all innocent individuals
7 from terrorism;

8 (2) offers its condolences to the families and
9 loved ones of United States and Israeli citizens who
10 were killed in terrorist attacks;

11 (3) calls for justice for Sara Duker and all
12 other victims of terrorist attacks;

13 (4) calls on the international community to con-
14 demn the practice of paying salaries to terrorists
15 and to urge the Palestinian Authority to revoke all
16 associated laws, budgetary funding, and agencies de-
17 voted to such payments; and

18 (5) affirms its support for penalties for the fail-
19 ure to comply with the Taylor Force Act, as well

- 1 visa restrictions for terrorists and those responsible
- 2 for martyr payments.

