



HR0499

LRB103 35214 LAW 65196 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, On October 7, 2023, Hamas, a designated foreign terrorist organization, perpetrated a brutal terrorist attack against the Republic of Israel, launching thousands of rockets and conducting incursions into Israeli territory; and

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WHEREAS, This savage assault resulted in the tragic loss of numerous innocent lives, leaving thousands more injured and over one hundred individuals, including U.S. citizens, subjected to abductions, with reports of horrifying acts of violence being perpetrated by Hamas terrorists, including rape, torture, and murder; and

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WHEREAS, The international community stands united in its condemnation of this heinous act of terrorism, and it expresses unwavering solidarity with the victims and their families, including Hersh Goldberg-Polin and Aner Shapira, whose bravery and courage are being recognized and acknowledged by communities across the globe; and

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WHEREAS, Hersh Goldberg-Polin, a 23-year-old man, was among those taken hostage, sustaining severe injuries in the process, including the loss of his arm below the elbow due to a grenade explosion he survived while fighting back against Hamas' merciless attack on Israel; he was last seen showing

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1 unwavering strength, determination, and poise while being  
2 abducted by Hamas terrorists; and

3 WHEREAS, Hersh Goldberg-Polin's parents, now residing in  
4 Israel, were originally raised in Chicago, and his  
5 grandmothers currently reside in Chicago and Evanston,  
6 highlighting the profound and intense impact this tragedy has  
7 had on communities across Israel, the United States, and the  
8 world; and

9 WHEREAS, Aner Shapira, an off-duty Israel Defense Forces  
10 soldier and member of the Nahal Brigade, was among those  
11 killed that day and sacrificed his life in an incredible and  
12 inspiring act of bravery; as he and over 20 other  
13 festivalgoers sought safety in a public bomb shelter, Hamas  
14 terrorists began throwing live grenades into the shelter; in  
15 response, he defended and protected those beside him by  
16 catching and throwing back grenades at the terrorists, saving  
17 others while laying down his life in the process; therefore,  
18 be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
20 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
21 we condemn in the strongest terms the terrorist acts  
22 perpetrated by Hamas on October 7, 2023 and express our full  
23 solidarity with the Republic of Israel and its citizens; and

1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, That we believe that the responsible parties  
3 behind this heinous act, including Hamas and its affiliates,  
4 must be held accountable for their actions and that all  
5 necessary measures need to be taken to ensure justice is  
6 served; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That we demand the immediate and safe return of  
8 Hersh Goldberg-Polin, along with all other hostages forcibly  
9 taken by Hamas terrorists, from Hamas captivity, and that  
10 every option must be explored and every effort must be exerted  
11 to secure their release and facilitate their safe return to  
12 their loving, brave, and courageous families; and be it  
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That we urge the United Nations, relevant  
15 international bodies, and member states to mobilize all  
16 available resources to assist in the negotiation and rescue  
17 efforts, with a focus on the well-being and immediate medical  
18 attention required for Hersh Goldberg-Polin and the other  
19 hostages; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we call upon the nations of the world to  
21 work collectively to prevent such acts of terror in the future  
22 and to strengthen global cooperation in combating terrorism in

1 all of its forms; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That we recognize and honor the extraordinary  
3 bravery and sacrifice of Hersh Goldberg-Polin's friend, Aner  
4 Shapira, who valiantly gave his life to protect others in the  
5 attack, displaying selflessness and heroism in the face of  
6 unimaginable danger; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 delivered to the President of the United States, the U.S.  
9 Senate Majority Leader, the U.S. Senate Minority Leader, the  
10 U.S. Speaker of the House, the U.S. House of Representatives  
11 Minority Leader, and all members of the Illinois Congressional  
12 Delegation.