

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 478

Urging a return to the principles outlined in the “Road Map for Peace” as a viable framework for achieving a peaceful solution in the Middle East.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 8, 2003

Ms. BERKLEY (for herself and Mr. WEINER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Urging a return to the principles outlined in the “Road Map for Peace” as a viable framework for achieving a peaceful solution in the Middle East.

Whereas the Government and people of the State of Israel have been engaged in a 3 year struggle against violence and terrorism;

Whereas Congress and the President have, on numerous occasions, stated that the United States stands side-by-side with Israel in the struggle against terrorism;

Whereas this struggle has consumed countless lives on both sides;

Whereas ending the violence, terror, and bloodshed that have devastated Israel and the Palestinian people since Sep-

tember 2000 is vital to the interests of the United States, Israel, and the Palestinian people;

Whereas the worldwide community, including the United States, the Russian Federation, and the European Union, worked to successfully develop the Middle East “Road Map for Peace” as a performance-based solution to the Middle East Peace process;

Whereas both the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority have agreed, in principle, to the Road Map for Peace as a framework for achieving a secure, just, and lasting peace in the region;

Whereas Congress has recognized that “Palestinian organizations are engaging in an organized, systematic, and deliberate campaign of terror”;

Whereas in his address on June 24, 2002, the President outlined steps for a successful resolution to the Middle Eastern conflict—steps that became the foundation for the Middle East Road Map for Peace;

Whereas a group of private citizens, led by Yossi Beilin and Yasser Abed Rabbo, who met without the approval of the Israeli Government, negotiated an unofficial Middle East peace plan, the Geneva Accord, that compromises the principles of the Middle East Road Map for Peace; and

Whereas on December 5, 2003, Secretary of State Powell met with the group of Israelis and Palestinians who drafted the Geneva Accord: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) expresses strong concern regarding the re-

3 cent signing of the Geneva Accord as well as the re-

1 cent meeting of State Department officials with the
2 authors of this document;

3 (2) notes that this document was not signed by
4 a single elected official from either the State of
5 Israel or the Palestinian Authority and therefore it
6 is without any governmental legitimacy;

7 (3) remains committed to the principles out-
8 lined in the Middle East “Road Map for Peace” as
9 a performance-based solution to the Middle East
10 conflict and is concerned about the potential under-
11 mining of this delicate process by the recently signed
12 Geneva Accord;

13 (4) reaffirms its support for the principles out-
14 lined in the President’s speech of June 24, 2002, as
15 a prerequisite for peace, specifically—

16 (A) a new Palestinian leadership not taint-
17 ed by violence;

18 (B) an end to Palestinian violence and ter-
19 ror;

20 (C) an end to hateful incitement by Pales-
21 tinian leadership; and

22 (D) a dismantling of the terrorism infra-
23 structure by the Palestinian Authority;

1 (5) strongly urges all parties in the region to
2 vigorously pursue efforts to establish a just, lasting,
3 and comprehensive peace in the Middle East; and

4 (6) encourages both parties to return to the
5 Middle East Road Map for Peace and use that docu-
6 ment as a framework for a Middle East peace initia-
7 tive.

○