

Resolution language for local impact only

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Dear Councilors,

I am writing to urge you to remove all ceasefire/ international language from the resolution as you work on amicable wording.

As I have expressed in my previous letter the City of Malden has no business making ceasefire resolutions, especially as we all recognize that it would be a toothless resolution.

The council was approached to make this resolution as an attempt to make Malden residents feel safe, however not only does a ceasefire resolution for Israel and Hamas not have any positive impact to our residents the tangible effects are a negative one to the Jewish community as any ceasefire resolution that does not call for Hamas to be removed from power and ignores Hamas' repeated statements that they fully intend to repeat the massacre of October 7th sends a message to the Jewish community that our lives are not of equal importance. I said this in my previous letter and I'll say it again here - I do not believe that is in any way your intent.

I was born in Boston and spent 30 of my almost 35 years of life living in Malden yet as a Jew I am often asked if I am from Israel simply on the grounds of my Jewish identity. Similarly when my wife or I speak of her army service (she served in the National Guard) it is very common for people to ask if it was in the IDF for the same reason of her Jewish identity. (If I had a dollar for every time this has happened we would be discussing this as I take you out to dinner.) I hope that this example of how closely the Jewish people and the nation of Israel are intrinsically linked in people's minds and that how the council decides to proceed can in fact actualize bigger security risks for the local Jewish community.

I do fully support this resolution being against hate. In light of the current conflict Islamophobia and Jew hate have gone up and I support standing up and speaking out against it at all opportunities. Both communities are asking for you to help us feel safe and the two choices outlined are the difference between unity and division.

I urge you please to do the right thing and keep this resolution local and within the confines of the city council jurisdiction.

Thank you for taking time to hear me.

Best,

Adam Lamport

126 West street, Malden