

Opposing H. Res. 845 and the Censure of Representative Tlaib

WHEREAS encouraging and supporting the Constitutionally-protected speech of elected representatives is essential for democracy;

WHEREAS Representative Rashida Tlaib (MI-12) is the only representative of Palestinian descent currently serving in the US Congress, is one of only four Muslims ever elected to Congress, and is one of only three Muslims currently serving in Congress;

WHEREAS Rep. Tlaib has consistently called for peace in the Middle East, including recently by cosponsoring [H. Res 786](#) and calling for an immediate de-escalation and cease-fire in Israel and occupied Palestine;

WHEREAS bigotry, violence, and oppression impact our communities- from synagogues and mosques to schools, homes, offices, and all places where communities gather- and by dividing our communities weaken our efforts to achieve collective safety, justice, and true multi-ethnic, multi-racial democracy;

WHEREAS antisemitism, Islamophobia, and anti-Palestinian/anti-Arab bigotry have increased significantly in the Seattle area, across the United States, and around the world in the past three months;

WHEREAS [H. Res 845](#) censures Rep. Tlaib's voice and support of the Palestinian people, disparaging a progressive Congresswoman who routinely supports the Democratic Party platform and causes, disrupting the unity of congressional Democrats, and distracting from the need for Congress to address United States policy towards Hamas, Israel, the people of Israel and Gaza, and real-time human suffering and destruction in both Israel and Gaza;

WHEREAS H. Res 845 [contains falsehoods and misrepresentations](#);

WHEREAS H. Res. 845 was sponsored and cosponsored only by Republican members of Congress;

WHEREAS two Democratic members of the Washington congressional delegation, Representatives Schrier (WA-08) and Pérez (WA-03), joined with 212 Republicans (including the entire Republican Washington State delegation) in voting to formally censure Representative Tlaib;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the First Legislative District Democrats condemn the inappropriate censure of Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib by the House of Representatives; commend and thank Congresswomen Suzan DelBene and Pramila Jayapal of the First Legislative District for opposing H. Res. 845; and strongly disagree with Congresswomen Schrier and Pérez for their support of H. Res. 845 and request future dialogue regarding their votes; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the First Legislative District Democrats request that their Chair share this resolution with Congresswomen DelBene, Jayapal, and Schrier, whose districts extend into the 1st Legislative District; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the First Legislative District Democrats affirm our commitment to combat antisemitism, Islamophobia, and anti-Palestinian/anti-Arab bigotry, our support for the people of both Israel and Palestine to live in peace and security, and the right of all people to live, learn, work, play, pray, and engage in peaceful protest without threats, intimidation, violence, or death.

Submitted to the 1st LD Issues Committee by Evan Wipf, Anne Udaloy, and Rami Al-Kabra,
Dec. 7, 2023

Recommended with Do Pass Recommendation to General Membership, Dec. 7, 2023.

Passed at the Dec. 27, 2023 General Meeting.