

## ADDRESSING THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN GAZA AND THE NEED FOR A TWO-STATE SOLUTION FOR ISRAEL AND PALESTINE 09/12/2014 #A

WHEREAS, as a result of the recent conflict in Gaza, more than 2,100 Palestinians died, a majority of them civilians including women and children, and more than 11,000 were wounded and nearly every element of Gaza's critical infrastructure, including electricity, water and sewage, as well as basic public services, including hospitals, schools and transportation facilities, and basic nutritional supplies, have been destroyed or seriously damaged, creating a humanitarian and environmental crisis for Gaza's civilians; and

WHEREAS, while an Israeli and Egyptian blockade of most construction materials and a diversion by Hamas to military use of certain construction materials caused significant hardship in Gaza and an inability to rebuild from past and more recent military conflicts between Hamas and Israel, it was announced on September 11, 2014 that an agreement has been reached between Israel, the Palestinian Authority and the United Nations to allow imports of reconstruction materials into Gaza, an agreement that will accommodate the security concerns of Israel and Egypt, and this is an important first step towards the necessary rebuilding and economic recovery of Gaza, and

WHEREAS, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains an unresolved issue that directly affects large number of Orange County residents on both sides of the conflict, as well as our nation and other countries and the United Nations, and deserves the immediate attention of the United Nations, the United States and other countries, especially in the Middle East, to help accomplish a negotiated settlement agreed upon by Israelis and the Palestinians.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Orange County Democratic Party welcomes and supports the agreement to allow imports of reconstruction materials into Gaza and supports other efforts to allow for the free flow of commerce secure from the weapons of war and creation of a vibrant economy in Gaza, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Orange County Democratic Party calls upon our Democratic congressional delegation to encourage President Obama as well as other nations to work with Israelis and Palestinians to address and help ease the humanitarian and environmental crisis in in Gaza and to support the

proposed Two-State solution to the conflict and which recognizes the right of both Israel and Palestine to exist.