

As Introduced

**135th General Assembly
Regular Session
2023-2024**

H. R. No. 312

Representative Forhan

**Cosponsors: Representatives Dobos, Seitz, Weinstein, Schmidt, Hoops, Fowler
Arthur, Dean**

A R E S O L U T I O N

To express the Ohio House of Representatives'	1
support for Israel and to demand that Hamas	2
release individuals taken hostage during its	3
planned attack against Israel on October 7, 2023.	4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, According to The New York Times, Hamas and other	5
Palestinian groups are believed to have taken 242 individuals	6
hostage during their attack on Israel on October 7, 2023; and	7

WHEREAS, At least 33 children are among those taken	8
hostage, as well as civilians, soldiers, people with	9
disabilities, grandparents, and even a nine-month-old baby; and	10

WHEREAS, The hostages include people from more than 40	11
countries and at least one Palestinian resident of Israel; and	12

WHEREAS, The Israeli military has reported that Hamas is	13
"trying to portray itself as a humane organization [by showing	14
video footage of a hostage receiving medical attention in Gaza],	15
while it is a murderous terrorist organization responsible for	16
the murder and abduction of babies, women, children and	17
elderly"; and	18

WHEREAS, A planning document showed that some Hamas 19
terrorists were instructed to capture Israelis for use as 20
bargaining chips in future prisoner exchanges; and 21

WHEREAS, The United Nations Secretary General, António 22
Guterres, has appealed to Hamas to release the hostages 23
immediately "without conditions"; and 24

WHEREAS, To date, Hamas has only released four hostages, 25
including two Israeli elderly women and an American mother and 26
daughter; now therefore be it 27

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 28
Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of the State of 29
Ohio, express our support for Israel in its fight against Hamas; 30
and be it further 31

RESOLVED, That we demand that Hamas release all hostages 32
without conditions; and be it further 33

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 34
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 35
President of the United States, the United States Secretary of 36
State, the members of the standing committees on armed services 37
in each chamber of the United States Congress, the news media of 38
Ohio, and Israel's Ambassador to the United States so the people 39
of Israel may be certain of Ohioans' support for them. 40