

CFA@LB Statement

Statement on the Resolution in Support of Palestine

On November 27, 2023, the Long Beach chapter of the California Faculty Association endorsed a resolution in support of Palestine which originated with the Palestine, Arab and Muslim Caucus of the CFA. The statement called for: 1) an immediate ceasefire and prisoner exchange; 2) the opening of the Rafah crossing to allow effective humanitarian aid; 3) pressuring the US government to restore electricity, water, food and the Internet that had been cut off by Israel; 4) an international, reputable, and unbiased commission to investigate war crimes; and 5) an immediate end to US military aid to Israel.

The resolution, passed by a slim margin, reflects the CFA Executive Board's deep concerns about the tremendous loss of life in Gaza and the severe, ongoing humanitarian crisis. The resolution, however, did not mention the violent attacks on Israelis by Hamas on October 7. We strongly and resolutely condemn the actions of Hamas and call for the release of all remaining hostages. In issuing this statement, we again join the call for an immediate ceasefire, an end to the Israeli government's decimation of Gaza, and an immediate increase in international efforts to supply Palestinians with humanitarian aid. Recent polling data in the U.S. shows that a ceasefire and humanitarian aid to Gaza are supported by a large majority of the U.S. public. Finally, we object to the fact that the U.S. is not following its own rules prohibiting arms sales where they are being used in violation of human rights and call for an end of military support for the Netanyahu government.

As a union rooted in social justice, we emphasize that the events in Israel/Palestine do not in any way justify the harassment or ill-treatment of Muslims, Jews, Palestinians or any other group, nor the obstruction and killing of health and humanitarian aid workers, journalists, the destruction or desecration of emergency vehicles, schools, homes, hospitals, cemeteries, humanitarian aid/refugee centers, synagogues, mosques, churches, or other places of worship. In the spirit of solidarity with all CSULB faculty, we mourn the loss of lives in Gaza, the Occupied West Bank and Israel, and we call for unity in supporting an end to the violence.