

SPECIAL 1

JUN 25 2010

10-1135

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Gilad Shalit (גלעד שליט) was born on August 28, 1986 in Nahariya, Israel, and joined the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) in July of 2005; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2006, while serving as a Corporal in the IDF's Armor Corps, Gilad Shalit and his unit were guarding Kerem Shalom (Vineyard of Peace), one of half a dozen border crossings that enable commerce between Israel and Gaza; and

WHEREAS, a terrorist group came onto Israeli soil, attacked the unit guarding Kerem Shalom, and abducted a wounded Gilad Shalit who was only 19 years old at the time of his kidnapping; and

WHEREAS, Gilad Shalit has been held as a prisoner in the Gaza Strip by Hamas since then, and in contravention of international norms, Hamas has forbidden all humanitarian assistance and visits by human rights organizations wishing to assess his condition; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, which released a report in September 2009, called for Gilad Shalit to be released; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2010, United States Representative Gary Ackerman (D-NY), introduced House Resolution 1359, calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Gilad Shalit, and this item is set to be heard quickly in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, in the four years since his abduction, there has been an outpouring of international support for Gilad Shalit, including cities such as New Orleans, Miami, Paris, and Rome, naming him an honorary citizen of those locales; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has always been and will continue to be an advocate for peace and stability in Israel; and

WHEREAS, in order to realize this vision Hamas must agree to the immediate and unconditional release of Gilad Shalit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, by adoption of this resolution, the Los Angeles City Council designates June 25, 2010 as GILAD SHALIT DAY in the City of Los Angeles; on this day, we join leadership throughout the world, including members of the United States Congress, and demand the immediate and unconditional release of Gilad Shalit by his Hamas captors, and we rededicate ourselves to pursuing peace in Israel.

ORIGINAL

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



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