Bills in Congress relating to Israel / Gaza / the West Bank

Block the Bombs Act (HR 3565)

Prohibits the sale, transfer or export of the 7 most deadly and indiscriminate weapons to Israel

81 cosponsors, including Mass. Reps. Ayanna Pressley, Jim McGovern and Stephen Lynch

Genocide Resolution (H Res 876)

Recognizes that Israel is committing genocide and that this commits the US to act to prevent and punish the crime of genocide. Includes calls for cessation of relevant arms transfers, cooperation with the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, targeted sanctions, advocacy within the UN and resumption of US funding of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of Palestinians in Gaza.

Sponsored by Rep. Rashida Tlaib and 20 others including Mass. Reps. Pressley and McGovern

US - Israel Defense Technology Cooperation Initiative (included in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2027 Sec. 219 in the House; NDAA Sec. 1217 in the Senate)

Mandates co-production plants, joint weapons development and data fusion across AI, cyber warfare and autonomous systems. Would systematically shield weapons transfers from public scrutiny and bind future US administrations to Israeli strategic interests regardless of voter demands.

NDAA 2027 (HR 8800) passed the House in July by a narrow margin with all Mass. legislators opposed. The Senate version is currently stalled. A final version will have to be negotiated between the House and the Senate and passed by both chambers.

UNRWA funding emergency restoration acts:

HR 2411- Immediately restores US funding to UNRWA.

Cosponsors include Mass. Reps. Pressley, McGovern and Lynch

S. 898 to the same effect

No Mass. cosponsors

A letter being currently circulated in the House by Rep. Mark Pocan requests the release from Israeli detention of 12 medical professionals from the West Bank and Gaza, including Dr. Abu Safiya, the former Director of the Kamal Adwan Hospital in Gaza.

S. Res. 852 was introduced in the Senate on 9/14/26 by Sen. Chris van Hollen; cosponsors include Mass. Sens. Warren and Markey.

The resolution requests that the Secretary of State submit to the Sen. Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee a statement on Israel's human rights practices in the West Bank since 1/1/22. The statement must include, inter alia, information related to the killings of 9 Palestinian Americans in the West Bank, a report on the conditions of Palestinian children held in Israeli military detention, any steps the US has taken to promote the human rights of US citizens and Palestinian children in the West Bank or to mitigate the the risk

of violence against them by Israeli security forces and settlers, and any other relevant information relating to gross violations of internationally recognized human rights by Israel.

This resolution was filed pursuant to Sec. 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act, so if it were to pass the administration would have 30 days to comply. On receipt of the report, Congress would have the opportunity to vote on a new Joint Resolution proposing any changes to security assistance to Israel. If the administration chooses not to comply a full cutoff of assistance to Israel including arms transfers would be triggered.