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TO: All Senators

DATE: September 14, 2011

FROM: Senator Michael J. Stack *MJS*

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship

In the near future, I will reintroduce a resolution supporting United States Senate Resolution 185, which calls on President Obama to firmly oppose any efforts by the Palestinians to take their case to the United Nations General Assembly. This resolution also calls for harsh condemnation of the Palestinian Authority's Fatah Party for rejoining with Hamas in a unity government.

United States Resolution 108 expresses opposition to Palestinian efforts to seek unilateral recognition at the United Nations and states its firm belief that any Palestinian unity government must publicly and formally forswear terrorism, accept Israel's right to exist, and conform to previous agreements made with Israel. The resolution was introduced following an announcement that the Palestinian Authority and Hamas have reached a unity agreement to govern the previously disputed territories. The resolution firmly states that the United Nations is not the right forum for a declaration of Palestinian statehood. Instead this should be done in peace negotiations, which Israel has always been willing to participate in, between Palestinians and Israelis. Further, the resolution urges the President to consider suspending assistance to the Palestinian Authority pending a review of the unity agreement between Fatah and Hamas. Senate Resolution 185 was passed by unanimous consent and has 88 bipartisan co-sponsors including Senator Casey and Senator Toomey of Pennsylvania.

If you have any questions or would like to co-sponsor the legislation, please call my office at 7-9608 or email jgerard@pasenate.com.