**Title:** A Resolution Calling for the End of U.S. Complicity in Ongoing Violence across the World

**Introduced by:** Council Member Donna Kuzemchak

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Action:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**THE CITY OF FREDERICK**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION NO: 25-\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION**

**Calling for the End of U.S. Complicity in Ongoing Violence across the World**

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**BACKGROUND**

TheCity Council of the City of Frederick:

**Affirms that** the City of Frederick stands for the universal values of human rights, peace, justice, and dignity of all people, both locally and globally; and

**Emphasizes that** the City of Frederick is committed to upholding the rule of law and expects all levels of government—local, state, and federal—to act in accordance with both the United States Constitution and international legal standards, including treaties and conventions to which the U.S. is a signatory; and

**Acknowledges that** the foundational principles of the United Nations unite the world’s people in the pursuit of peace, diplomacy, and mutual respect, and the United States must lead by prioritizing nonviolent solutions over war in all regions—including the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and South America; and

**Reaffirms that** the City of Frederick is committed to anti-militarism, recognizing that lasting peace cannot be achieved through the expansion of armed conflict or the militarization of foreign and domestic policy; and

**Highlights that** the City of Frederick acknowledges the legitimacy of nonviolent protest movements, including the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement, as expressions of free speech and tools of civil resistance; and

**Recognizes that** freedom of speech, peaceful protest, and the right to dissent are foundational principles of a functioning democracy and must be protected, not suppressed; and

**Takes note that** the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Gaza bears striking parallels to other international atrocities, including the genocide perpetrated by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Sudan, revealing a global pattern of impunity and violence against civilians; and

**Underscores that** ongoing military expenditures and international aid to support armed conflicts contribute directly to domestic funding shortfalls, including the urgent and growing crisis in Maryland’s education system, which is already facing severe resource deficits impacting students, educators, and families; and

**Affirms that** the continued supply of military material aid to Israel, funded by U.S. taxpayers, perpetuates violence, impedes diplomacy, and violates domestic and international law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREDERICK** that the City of Frederick joins the hundreds of jurisdictions and institutions across the nation calling for our elected federal officials to take the following immediate actions:

1. **Demand an immediate and permanent ceasefire in all regions** receiving U.S. military aid, calling for an end to all acts of aggression, military operations, and the deliberate targeting of civilians—through tactics such as starvation and the spread of disease. This includes Gaza, where Israeli military actions have led to widespread humanitarian catastrophe;

1. **Support and enable full, unrestricted humanitarian access** to all conflict-affected areas worldwide, in full compliance with international humanitarian law and in coordination with trusted relief organizations, including in Gaza where access to areas such as Khan Younis, Rafah, Jabalia, and the broader region remains critically obstructed;
2. **Facilitate the peaceful, just, and transparent exchange** of hostages, detainees, and prisoners in all conflicts, ensuring the humane treatment of all individuals in accordance with international law;
3. **Unequivocally denounce violence in the West Bank**, including state-sponsored aggression, illegal occupation, and settlement expansion;
4. **Advocate for sustained diplomacy** that prioritizes the protection and restoration of human rights, upholds international and domestic law, and ensures lasting peace and justice for all affected communities;
5. **Uphold the** fundamental rights of freedom of speech, protest, asylum, and religion; support a free press and essential public institutions; and ensure the protection of LGBTQIA+ individuals, reproductive healthcare access, and marginalized communities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution serves as a declaration that the City of Frederick stands with people everywhere striving for peace, freedom, and a just world. We raise our voices in unity and love, believing that a better future is possible if we stand together. From Frederick to Gaza, from Kiev to Darfur, we believe all people are entitled to freedom, safety, and dignity.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.**

**APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Michael C. O’Connor, Mayor Katie Nash, City Council President**

**Approved for Legal Sufficiency:**

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**City Attorney**