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House of Representatives

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*Excerpts of remarks by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ)
during debate in the House of Representatives
on [HR 8034 Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act](#)
April 20, 2024*

Mr. Speaker, the United States must make absolutely clear in both word and deed, not just today, but every day—and without equivocation—that we stand with Israel.

Both defensive weapons systems like Iron Dome and David's Sling and all necessary offensive military capabilities must be conveyed without delay to Israel for as long as it takes to defeat Hamas and to deter Iran, Hezbollah, and other radical Islamists.

Of significance, HR 8034 prohibits aid to Gaza from flowing through UNRWA, an antisemitic disgraceful organization that teaches Palestinian children to hate Jews and glorifies suicidal martyrdom and the evisceration of Israel as a state.

UNRWA is a child soldiers factory that we have funded for decades. Twenty-one years ago—on this Floor in 2003—I offered an [amendment](#) that passed the House to defund UNRWA. The Senate never acted.

A few weeks ago, the Foreign Affairs Committee [passed](#) my [bill](#) to stop UNRWA funding. HR 8034 defunds UNRWA.

Israel has an absolute right to exist—free from aggression and antisemitic hate.