

Julie Dachtler

From: Alan E Brownstein <aebrownstein@ucdavis.edu>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 3:45 PM
To: Oscar Villegas; Clerkoftheboard; Angel Barajas; Jim Provenza; Mary Vixie Sandy; Lucas Frerichs
Subject: Ceasefire resolution

Dear Yolo County Supervisors,

My name is Alan Brownstein. I have lived and worked in Yolo County since 1981.

I am writing to ask you in the strongest terms that I can to refrain from considering or adopting a resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in the Israel-Gaza war.

There should be no mistake as to the purpose or effect of such a resolution. It will have no impact on the war. What it will do is to further divide our community in a particularly hurtful way.

The Davis City Council adopted such a resolution. The hours long meeting, packed with speakers whose hatred for Israel was blatantly expressed, was a disaster for anyone who cares about the people of Davis. Please spare Yolo County a similar experience.

I have been active in the Jewish community in Davis for 40 years. I have served on the Board of Congregation Bet Haverim for several terms. I also served as Co-President and Vice President of the synagogue. While I am writing in my personal capacity, not as a representative of the synagogue, I know my community. The sense of disappointment, alienation, and vulnerability of the many Jews I spoke with after the meeting was palpable. The atmosphere at the City Council meeting was so hostile that some people were too intimidated to speak.

I know that there are residents of Yolo County for whom the war between Israel and Hamas is a painful ordeal. A resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire will maximize that pain for some members of our community.

When the Board of Supervisors cannot solve a problem for the people of Yolo County, it should at least avoid making things worse. Sometimes the best one can do is to follow the principle of "Do No Harm." The way to do that on this issue is to decline to take up this divisive resolution and the bigotry it will inspire.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Alan Brownstein

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