TWO-STATE SOLUTION ACT

Earlier this year, we witnessed horrific violence erupt between Israel and Gaza, killing and injuring hundreds, destroying homes and critical infrastructure, and worsening Gaza’s humanitarian crisis. This war, sadly, was the latest in a cycle of violence that has now continued for decades and followed a U.S. presidency that pushed peace even further out of reach.

The United States has, under Democratic and Republican administrations since 2002, supported a two-state solution. In the wake of this year’s deadly conflict, we must move beyond professing support for such a solution—we must act to make it so. Only a two-state solution can both ensure Israel’s survival as a democratic state and a national home for the Jewish people and fulfill the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people for a state of their own.

The Two-State Solution Act will accelerate progress towards a two-state solution and discourage steps that push one out of reach. This bill:

- Clarifies the distinction between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories and reverses policies put in place by the Trump administration that removed such distinctions;

- Reaffirms U.S. security assistance to Israel; makes clear that there should be robust oversight over that assistance (like taxpayer support to other countries), and that the authorizations for security assistance to Israel under the Security Assistance Act of 2000 and the Arms Export Control Act do not authorize its use for activities that perpetuate the occupation or enable de facto or de jure annexation;

- Outlines the need for programming in the occupied Palestinian territories to promote human rights, democracy, and rule of law, and to strengthen civil society organizations, and authorizes dedicated funding for such programming;

- Creates a trigger that terminates the designation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as a terrorist organization when the Palestinians have been certified to be in compliance with the Taylor Force Act, incentivizing compliance with the Taylor Force Act and allowing for the reopening of the PLO foreign mission in Washington, DC; and

- Enhances people-to-people programming for Israelis and Palestinians, authorizing funding for shared educational opportunities and youth activities.