

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4976

To prohibit United States assistance to the Palestinian Authority if a
Palestinian state is declared unilaterally, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2000

Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. LANTOS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. WEINER, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SISISKY, and Mr. LAZIO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To prohibit United States assistance to the Palestinian Authority if a Palestinian state is declared unilaterally, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Middle East Peace
5 Process Support Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) it is only through direct negotiations be-
2 tween the parties that progress toward peace has
3 been and can be achieved in the Middle East;

4 (2) the process that began with the signing of
5 the Oslo accords in 1993 has created an important
6 negotiating framework between Israel and the Pal-
7 estinians that has produced the promise of an end
8 to the conflict;

9 (3) as part of the Oslo accords, Palestinian
10 Chairman Arafat committed that “all outstanding
11 issues relating to permanent status will be resolved
12 through negotiations”;

13 (4) the repeated Palestinian threat to declare
14 an independent state unilaterally after September
15 13, 2000, is contrary to both the spirit and letter of
16 the Oslo accords;

17 (5) the unilateral declaration of an independent
18 Palestinian state will inevitably lead to violence and
19 the end of the negotiating process;

20 (6) the United States agreed to provide assist-
21 ance to the Palestinians only after the Oslo accords
22 were signed in order to help advance the cause of
23 peace;

24 (7) on March 11, 1999, the Senate overwhelm-
25 ingly adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 5, and

1 on March 16, 1999, the House of Representatives
2 adopted House Concurrent Resolution 24, both of
3 which resolved that: “any attempt to establish Pales-
4 tinian statehood outside the negotiating process will
5 invoke the strongest Congressional opposition”; and

6 (8) on July 25, 2000, Palestinian Chairman
7 Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Barak issued a
8 joint statement agreeing that the “two sides under-
9 stand the importance of avoiding unilateral actions
10 that prejudice the outcome of negotiations and that
11 their differences will be resolved in good-faith nego-
12 tiations.”.

13 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE.**

14 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the
15 period beginning on the date on which a Palestinian state
16 is unilaterally declared and ending on the date on which
17 such unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood is
18 rescinded—

19 (1) United States assistance may not be pro-
20 vided directly or indirectly to the Palestinian Au-
21 thority or to any successor or related entity; and

22 (2) Federal funds may not be used to extend
23 United States recognition to such a unilaterally-de-
24 clared Palestinian state, including, but not limited
25 to, funds for the payment of the salary of any am-

