

## Suspension of aid to Palestinian Authority by US Congress

Brief Analysis of Vote on H. Res. 268

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On H. Res. 268 – The vote in the House of Representatives was 407 ayes versus 6 nays with 5 abstentions and 13 members voting "present."

Thus, a total of 24 members of Congress refused to vote for a resolution calling for the President to "suspend" aid to the Palestinians.

This vote can be interpreted any number of ways, but one valid interpretation is that the number of Congressmen and Congresswomen willing to support the Palestinians is growing larger.

The lack of a coherent campaign on Capital Hill to create more awareness about the plight of the Palestinians is now obvious.

James Zogby is doing a lot of very good work, but many more resources are urgently needed in order to develop more cogent awareness among the members of Congress about the plight of the Palestinian people.

Dennis Kucinich, NIck Rahall and Earl Blumenauer were the three Democrats to vote Nay, and Walter Jones, Ron Paul and Justin Amash were the three Republicans to vote Nay.

All of the thirteen members voting "present" were Democrats.

Thus, the largest bloc of support for the Palestinians is within the Progressive Caucus – which consists entirely of Democrats.

After the passage of similar resolutions in both houses of Congress, the <u>Obama White House</u> <u>moved swiftly to defend US aid to the Palestinians</u> arguing that it is crucial to the peace and stability of the region.

See the names of the members of Congress who voted: Nay, Present and Abstain below.

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