

Rep. Ellison statement on negotiations between Israel and Palestinian Authority

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WASHINGTON – Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) released the following statement after the negotiating period between Israel and the Palestinian Authority expired:

"A lasting peace agreement between Israel and Palestine will require both sides to move beyond inevitable setbacks. Recent challenges in the process prove the need for more dialogue, not less. Both sides should commit to extending the current negotiations period to improve understanding and achieve a framework for peace.

"The reconciliation of Hamas and Fatah presents not just a challenge but a potential opportunity for a durable peace agreement. I understand Israeli leaders' opposition to negotiate with a unity government given Hamas' refusal to recognize Israel and renounce violence. But any agreement that guarantees Israel's long-term security and an independent Palestinian state will require peace with all the Palestinians, not just one faction."