

**AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 326, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MS. FOXX OF NORTH CAROLINA**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas in 1989, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) launched an effort to evade direct negotiations for peace with the State of Israel by instead pursuing Palestinian membership in international organizations, which could imply de facto recognition of a Palestinian state by the United Nations;

Whereas the Executive branch, with significant support from Members of Congress, successfully stopped the PLO's effort by credibly threatening, as noted in a May 1, 1989, statement by then-Secretary of State James A. Baker, "that the United States [would] make no further contributions, voluntary or assessed, to any organization which makes any change in the P.L.O.'s present status as an observer organization";

Whereas the United States success over a period of decades demonstrated that withholding contributions and placing conditions of its payment can result in real reforms, stop counterproductive developments, and advance United States interests at the United Nations;

Whereas in 2011, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) granted full membership to the Palestinians, triggering a United States law that prohibits funding for any United Nations organization that grants membership to the PLO;

Whereas in September 2015 and again in September 2016, at the United Nations General Assembly, Abu Mazen threatened that Palestinian leadership would no longer be bound by its signed agreements with Israel;

Whereas Palestinian leadership continues its effort to evade direct negotiations for peace with the State of Israel by seeking recognition of a Palestinian state from foreign governments and in international forums; and

Whereas further efforts to bypass negotiations and to unilaterally declare a Palestinian state, or to appeal to the United Nations or other international forums or to foreign governments for recognition of a Palestinian state of membership or other upgraded status for the Palestinian observer mission at those forums, or to impose a solution or parameters for negotiations, would violate the underlying principles of the Oslo Accords, the Road Map, and other relevant Middle East peace process efforts: Now, therefore, be it

