

Washington, DC (October 27, 2011) – Reps. Gus Bilirakis (FL-09), Eliot Engel (NY-17), and Carolyn Maloney (NY-14), have introduced [H.R. 3131](#), a bipartisan bill that expresses gratitude to the government of Greece for preventing the Gaza flotilla from setting sail in contravention of Israel's legal blockade of Gaza.

The legislation also directs the Secretary of State to submit a report on whether any support organization that participated in the planning or execution of the recent Gaza flotilla attempt should be designated as a foreign terrorist organization.

"Our allies in the Mediterranean need our support during these tumultuous times. Greece stood strong with Israel by preventing an illegal flotilla from launching from its ports as it tried to make its way to Gaza," said Rep. Bilirakis, Co-Chair of the Congressional Hellenic Caucus and a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. "Israel has been the victim of over 10,000 rockets launched by Hamas and other terrorist organizations in Gaza. The United Nations agrees that the Israeli naval blockade of Gaza is legal and in accordance with international law. Any illegal attempts to provide aid and comfort to these bad actors must be investigated."