



Speech By  
**Michael Berkman**

**MEMBER FOR MAIWAR**

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Record of Proceedings, 6 March 2024

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**Middle East**



**Mr BERKMAN** (Maiwar—Grn) (10.19 am): I give notice that I will move—

That this House:

1. notes that:
  - (a) more than 30,400 people have been killed, over 72,000 wounded and approximately two million displaced by Israel's bombardment of Palestine since 7 October 2023.
  - (b) most hospitals in Gaza have been forced to close, and the healthcare system does not have capacity to cope with the number of dead and wounded Palestinians, particularly in northern Gaza.
  - (c) Israel has refused to agree to a ceasefire and continues to threaten invasion of the Rafah region, where approximately 1.4 million people are now sheltering.
  - (d) the Labor state government has provided public support and funds for arms manufacturers who supply weapons used in Israel's attacks, many of which amount to war crimes according to Human Rights Watch and the UN.
  - (e) this includes at least \$9 million for manufacturers to supply Boeing with weapons, and a 2023 manufacturing capability grant of an unknown amount to Ferra Engineering to supply Boeing's Ghost Bat program.
  - (f) Ferra Engineering is the sole supplier of F-35 jet fighter components, which the Israeli Defence Force confirmed on 7 November 2023 have been used to drop 900kg JDAM bombs in their invasion of Gaza.
2. calls on the government to:
  - (a) immediately withdraw public support and funding for companies involved in the manufacture and supply of weapons to the State of Israel, including Ferra.
  - (b) actively advocate for an immediate ceasefire, the release of all hostages and political prisoners, reinstatement of aid and an end to the State of Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian territories.