



Resolution Concerning Jonathan Pollard

WHEREAS, Jonathan Pollard unlawfully disclosed classified information of the United States to its principal ally in the Middle East, Israel, for which offense he was sentenced to life in prison in breach of a plea bargain; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pollard expressed remorse for his actions and cooperated with the United States government, as did the government of Israel; and

WHEREAS, he has been incarcerated in federal penitentiaries since 1985; and

WHEREAS, he has now served longer than any other person ever convicted of an espionage offense (which Mr. Pollard was not convicted of), against the United States and 6 to 12 times the median sentence for this offense (2-4 years); and

WHEREAS, this constitutes a denial of equal protection of the laws and fundamental due process,

WHEREAS, the disproportionate sentence received by Jonathan Pollard has been noted in many requests for clemency – most recently by various current members of Congress, as well as by former federal government officials (including Senator and Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee Dennis DeConcini, Congressman and Homeland Security Advisor Lee Hamilton, Deputy Attorney General and Harvard Law Professor Philip Heymann, Assistant Secretary of Defense Lawrence Korb, Attorney General Michael Mukasey, White House Counsel Bernard Nussbaum, Senator Arlen Specter, Vice President Dan Quayle, Secretary of State George Schultz, and CIA Director James Woolsey);

WHEREAS, many representatives of the faith community (including Father Robert Drinan, Father Theodore Hesburgh of Notre Dame, Cardinal Bernard Law of Boston; and Archbishop John Quinn of San Francisco; all major Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant organizations) and leading civic figures (including New York City Mayors David Dinkins and Rudolph Giuliani, NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks, American Bar Association President Jerome Shestack, and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel) have likewise called for clemency and reduction of Jonathan Pollard's sentence to time served; and

WHEREAS, the European Parliament, as early as 1993, issued a similar resolution urging clemency,

NOW, THEREFORE, this 1st day of March, 2011, the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists calls upon President Barack Obama to commute Mr. Pollard's sentence to time served and to order his release.