

Santa Cruz Sentinel

Opinion Letters to the Editor

Letter | Panetta opposes halting weapons to Israel

By [Letters to the Editor](#) | Santa Cruz Sentinel

PUBLISHED:

Once again, our Congressperson Jimmy Panetta is out of step with his constituents.

Polls show that a majority of Americans, including two-thirds of Democrats, support halting all military aid to Israel as a result of its ongoing war crimes in Gaza. President Biden has refused, however. He has only agreed to suspend one shipment of certain kinds of bombs, such as a notorious 2,000-pound weapon human rights groups have documented as responsible for numerous mass-casualty events, including leveling entire apartment buildings filled with civilians.

While the vast majority of congressional Democrats approve of Biden's decision to delay this one shipment, Panetta joined 25 hawkish Democrats in criticizing the president, insisting that his \$14 billion of other armaments he is sending to Israel isn't enough, and he must also deliver these deadly explosives regardless of civilian casualties. Panetta ludicrously claims that withholding these particular bombs goes against Israel's right to defend itself, buttresses terrorist groups, allows them to steal humanitarian aid, and even emboldens antisemitism.

We need a congressional representative who cares about international humanitarian law.

— Professor Stephen Zunes, Santa Cruz

The Sentinel welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters should be short, no more than 175 words. We do not accept anonymous letters. Letter-writers should include their full name as well as a street address and telephone number. We don't publish those details in the newspaper, but need the information for verification purposes. Occasionally, we reject letters simply because we've had so many on the same subject. Submit your letters online at www.santacruzsentinel.com/submit-letters.