

WASHINGTON- Congressman Lee Terry today released the following statement regarding Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's address to Congress today.

"Recently, President Obama called on Israel to return to its 1967 borders as a condition for moving forward with peace negotiations with Palestine. This approach – which would leave Israel vulnerable to attack – is wrong. It was made even more puzzling considering it came just a few weeks after the Palestinian Authority announced a power-sharing agreement with the terrorist organization Hamas.

"Today Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed a joint session of Congress – a speech in which he reiterated his opposition to such a plan and that Israel can only make peace with the Palestinians if they're prepared to make peace with the Jewish state.

"My commitment to Israel's right to defend herself has never waivered. A staunch ally in the Middle East, Israel has earned our respect and shouldn't be handcuffed by such an unrealistic requirement. Quite simply – as the Prime Minister himself has said – the misguided precondition laid out by the President is indefensible.

"Peace in the Middle East is a worthy goal, but we shouldn't turn our backs on our allies to accomplish it."

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