

Castle Responds to Middle East Peace Conference in Annapolis -- November 27, 2007

Washington, D.C. -- Delaware Congressman Mike Castle issued the following statement in regards to the Middle East Peace Conference in Annapolis today.

"For the first time in nearly a decade, leaders from Israel and several Arab nations have come together to discuss progress," Castle said. "Stability in the Middle East is absolutely vital, and I commend all of the diplomatic negotiators in Annapolis for confronting some of the most difficult obstacles to achieving peace. As American soldiers demonstrate our commitment to regional stability, a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace has never been of higher national interest to the United States."

"I conveyed this message directly to President Bush and Secretary Rice during a meeting at the White House earlier this year and believe the Conference in Annapolis is the first step towards regional reconciliation and security. Diplomatic initiatives such as this are imperative and should set a standard for future negotiations. All peace talks are long-term efforts and I remain in support of an effective diplomatic offensive in the Middle East to ensure genuine progress is made."

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