

**ROBERT M. TOMLINSON**  
6TH DISTRICT

□ **SENATE BOX 203006**  
**ROOM 362, MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING**  
**HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3006**  
**(717) 787-5072**  
**FAX: (717) 772-2991**

□ **654 WOODBOURNE ROAD**  
**LANGHORNE, PA 19047**  
**(215) 752-6763**  
**FAX: (215) 757-8547**

**3207 STREET ROAD**  
**BENSALEM, PA 19020**  
**(215) 638-1784**  
**FAX: (215) 638-1786**

rtomlinson@psen.gov  
www.senatoromlinson.com



**Senate of Pennsylvania**

**COMMITTEES**

**CONSUMER PROTECTION AND  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, CHAIRMAN  
APPROPRIATIONS, VICE CHAIRMAN  
COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND  
RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
EDUCATION  
TRANSPORTATION  
VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**PHEAA BOARD  
PENNSYLVANIA FIREFIGHTERS AND  
EMERGENCY SERVICES LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS  
ADVISORY BOARD, DELAWARE VALLEY VETERANS HOME**

August 6, 2014

Ambassador Ron Dermer  
Embassy of Israel  
3514 International Drive N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Ambassador,

Today, many of my fellow members of the Pennsylvania Legislature have written you pledging their support of Israel in its pursuit of protecting its citizens during Operation Protective Edge. I also write to pledge my support, but I want to take this opportunity to touch on a subject that is close to my specific district.

I want to write specifically to raise awareness to the fact that Israel's actions are not only in the defense of the innocent Israeli civilians who are under constant rocket fire from Hamas, but Israel's actions occur in the name of protection of society as a whole. I want to make clear my belief that any sovereign nation, when fired upon by an enemy, especially an enemy such as the terrorist organization Hamas, has a clear moral right to respond appropriately. Many Israeli soldiers have paid the ultimate sacrifice in this conflict and that recognition leads me to the crux of my letter.

Mr. Ambassador, I want to personally thank you for your nation's treatment of the thousands of "Lone Soldiers" fighting for the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) in the name of Democracy. The Lone Soldier Center website describes these soldiers this way:

*"A 'lone soldier' is a soldier in the IDF with no family in Israel to support him or her: a new immigrant, a volunteer from abroad, an orphan or an individual from a broken home.*

*Every day tens of thousands of soldiers are defending the State of Israel and its citizens. These soldiers regularly spend weekends and holidays at home where their parents provide for all of their needs; food, laundry, and even a hug. For more than 5700 lone soldiers, there is no immediate family in Israel to support them. Though highly motivated*

**ROBERT M. TOMLINSON**  
6TH DISTRICT

□ SENATE BOX 203006  
ROOM 362, MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3006  
(717) 787-5072  
FAX: (717) 772-2991

□ 654 WOODBOURNE ROAD  
LANGHORNE, PA 19047  
(215) 752-6763  
FAX: (215) 757-8547

□ 3207 STREET ROAD  
BENSALEM, PA 19020  
(215) 638-1784  
FAX: (215) 638-1786

rtomlinson@pasen.gov  
www.senatorrtomlinson.com



**Senate of Pennsylvania**

**COMMITTEES**

CONSUMER PROTECTION AND  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, CHAIRMAN  
APPROPRIATIONS, VICE CHAIRMAN  
COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND  
RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
EDUCATION  
TRANSPORTATION  
VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

PHEAA BOARD  
PENNSYLVANIA FIREFIGHTERS AND  
EMERGENCY SERVICES LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS  
ADVISORY BOARD, DELAWARE VALLEY VETERANS HOME

*and proud to serve, when on leave, many of them struggle to fulfill their most basic needs."*

Your National Hero, and my former constituent, Michael Levin, was one of these Lone Soldiers who ultimately gave his life in the service of Israel. In fact, and I'm sure you're aware, Israel's Lone Soldier Center was built in honor of Michael. I've had the honor of not only travelling to Israel twice and visiting his grave at Mt. Herzl, but to sit down with his parents for a discussion about the Israeli Military's treatment of Michael and other Lone Soldiers.

These young men and women are fighting for their country, they're fighting for their people, and more importantly, whether my nation and the rest of the free world recognizes it or not, they're fighting on behalf of us all against those terrorists who wish to divide us.

Again, I want to thank you for your nation's treatment of these lone soldiers, and I stand steadfast in support of Operation Protective Edge. The fight against terrorism is a global fight, and the plight of the Jewish people is an honorable one. May god bless the shining star of democracy in the Middle East today, and in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert M. Tomlinson".

Robert M. Tomlinson  
Senator, 6<sup>th</sup> District