**South Carolina General Assembly**

122nd Session, 2017-2018

**H. 4609**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

House Resolution

Sponsors: Rep. Clemmons

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Introduced in the House on January 11, 2018

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Law Enforcement; Council on American Islamic Relations

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/11/2018 House Introduced ([House Journal‑page 592](file:///h:\hj\20180111.docx))

1/11/2018 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 592](file:///h:\hj\20180111.docx))

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4609&session=122&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/11/2018](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\4609_20180111.docx)

**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CALL UPON ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO SUSPEND ALL CONTACTS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES WITH THE COUNCIL ON AMERICAN ISLAMIC RELATIONS.

Whereas, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has suspended all formal contacts with the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) due to evidence demonstrating a relationship with Hamas; and

Whereas, in the largest successful terrorism financing prosecution in United States history, the *U.S. v the Holy Land Foundation*, CAIR was identified as a Muslim Brotherhood front group and was named as an unindicted co‑conspirator in the trial; and

Whereas, CAIR opened its first office in Washington, D.C., with the help of a grant from the Holy Land Foundation, a charitable organization that was shut down by the U.S. Department of the Treasury for funding jihadist terrorist organizations; and

Whereas, the United Arab Emirates, an ally of the United States, designated CAIR as a terrorist organization in 2014; and

Whereas, in March 2011, Muthanna al‑Hanooti, one of CAIR’s directors, was sentenced to one year in federal prison for violating U.S. sanctions against Iraq; and

Whereas, the co‑founder of CAIR’s parent organization, the Islamic Association for Palestine, Sami‑Al‑Arian was sentenced to fifty‑seven months in prison on terrorism charges for financing Palestinian Islamic Jihad, an organization designated by the U.S. Department of State as a terrorist organization; and

Whereas, Ghassan Elashi, who served as a founding board member for CAIR’s regional chapter in Texas, was convicted of ten counts of conspiracy to provide and the provision of material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization, eleven counts of conspiracy to provide and the provision of funds, goods, and services to a specially designated terrorist, ten counts of the conspiracy to commit and the commission of money laundering, one count of conspiracy to impede and impair the Internal Revenue Service, and two counts of filing a false tax return; and

Whereas, Randall Todd Royer, a former communications specialist and civil rights coordinator for CAIR, trained with and set up an Internet-based newsletter for Lashkar‑I‑Taiba, an al Qaeda-tied Kashmir organization that is listed on the Department of State’s international terror list and was indicted on charges of conspiring to help al Qaeda and the Taliban battle American troops in Afghanistan; and

Whereas, CAIR’s former Community Affairs Director, Bassem Khafagi pled guilty to three federal counts of bank and visa fraud, funneling money to activities supporting terrorism and published material advocating suicide attacks against the United States. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, call upon all law enforcement and governmental agencies to suspend all contacts and outreach activities with the Council on American Islamic Relations.

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