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DEPUTY LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

**SENATOR PENNY WONG
LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY IN THE SENATE
SHADOW MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
LABOR SENATOR FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

LABOR OPPOSES ANNEXATION OF WEST BANK LAND

Labor opposes the annexation of land in the West Bank by the Israeli Government.

Annexation of any part of the West Bank will weaken the viability of any future Palestinian state, undermine the prospect of a two-state solution, violate international law and risk destabilising Israel's neighbours, which the world cannot afford.

We expect the Australian Government to join with likeminded countries including the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Italy and Spain in making these concerns clear.

Labor is a strong supporter of the state of Israel – that will never change.

We share the concern expressed by the Global Jewish Coalition and the

Commanders for Israel's Security – a group of 293 retired Israeli generals, admirals, and leaders from Mossad, Shin Bet, and the police – that unilateral annexation would jeopardise Israel's security.

Labor has a long and proud history of supporting a just and durable two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

We continue to call on both sides of the conflict to refrain from any actions that hamper peaceful outcomes for both the Israeli and Palestinian peoples.

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Authorised by Paul Erickson, ALP, Canberra.