

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2737

To relocate to Jerusalem the United States Embassy in Israel, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 5, 2009

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KYL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. BUNNING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To relocate to Jerusalem the United States Embassy in Israel, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Jerusalem Embassy  
5 Relocation Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Each sovereign nation, under international  
9 law and custom, may designate its own capital.

1           (2) Jerusalem has been the capital of the Jew-  
2           ish people for 3,000 years.

3           (3) Jerusalem has never been the capital for  
4           any other state other than for the Jewish people.

5           (4) Since 1950, the city of Jerusalem has been  
6           the capital of the State of Israel.

7           (5) The city of Jerusalem is the seat of Israel's  
8           President, Parliament, and Supreme Court, and the  
9           site of numerous government ministries and social  
10          and cultural institutions.

11          (6) The city of Jerusalem is the spiritual center  
12          of Judaism, and is also considered a holy city by the  
13          members of other religious faiths.

14          (7) From 1948–1967, Jerusalem was a divided  
15          city and Israeli citizens of all faiths as well as Jew-  
16          ish citizens of all states were denied access to holy  
17          sites in the area controlled by Jordan.

18          (8) In 1967, the city of Jerusalem was reunited  
19          during the conflict known as the Six Day War.

20          (9) Since 1967, Jerusalem has been a united  
21          city under Israeli law, and persons of all religious  
22          faiths have been guaranteed under Israeli law full  
23          access to holy sites within the city.

24          (10) The United States maintains its embassy  
25          in the functioning capital of every country except in

1 the case of our democratic friend and strategic ally,  
2 the State of Israel.

3 (11) The United States conducts official meet-  
4 ings and other business in the city of Jerusalem in  
5 de facto recognition of its status as the capital of  
6 Israel.

7 (12) United States law states as a matter of  
8 United States policy that Jerusalem should be the  
9 undivided capital of Israel.

10 (13) Relocating the United States Embassy in  
11 Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem would express the  
12 continued support of the United States for Israel  
13 and for an undivided Jerusalem.

14 **SEC. 3. RELOCATION OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY TO**  
15 **JERUSALEM.**

16 (a) REMOVAL OF WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Jeru-  
17 salem Embassy Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–45; 109  
18 Stat. 398) is amended—

19 (1) by striking section 7; and

20 (2) by redesignating section 8 as section 7.

21 (b) TIMETABLE.—Not more than 50 percent of the  
22 funds appropriated to the Department of State for fiscal  
23 year 2012 for “Acquisition and Maintenance of Buildings  
24 Abroad” may be obligated until the Secretary of State de-

1 terminates and reports to Congress that the United States  
2 Embassy in Jerusalem has officially opened.

3 (c) FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011 FUNDING.—

4 (1) FISCAL YEAR 2010.—Of the funds author-  
5 ized to be appropriated for “Acquisition and Mainte-  
6 nance of Buildings Abroad” for the Department of  
7 State for fiscal year 2010, such sums as may be nec-  
8 essary shall be made available until expended only  
9 for construction and other costs associated with the  
10 establishment of the United States Embassy in  
11 Israel in the capital of Jerusalem.

12 (2) FISCAL YEAR 2011.—Of the funds author-  
13 ized to be appropriated for “Acquisition and Mainte-  
14 nance of Buildings Abroad” for the Department of  
15 State for fiscal year 2011, such sums as may be nec-  
16 essary shall be made available until expended only  
17 for construction and other costs associated with the  
18 establishment of the United States Embassy in  
19 Israel in the capital of Jerusalem.

20 (d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “United  
21 States Embassy” means the offices of the United States  
22 diplomatic mission and the residence of the United States  
23 chief of mission.

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