

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3451

To authorize assistance to Israel for the Iron Dome anti-missile defense system.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 26), 2010

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To authorize assistance to Israel for the Iron Dome anti-missile defense system.

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 “United States-Israel  
5       Rocket and Missile Defense Cooperation and Support  
6       Act”.

7       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8       Congress finds the following:

9               (1) The Jewish State of Israel, as a close and  
10       indispensable ally of the United States, with whom

1 the United States enjoys mutually beneficial mili-  
2 tary, intelligence, homeland security, scientific, tech-  
3 nological, and other cooperation, deserves all nec-  
4 essary assistance to defend itself and its citizens  
5 from the many threats that it continues to face.

6 (2) The State of Israel has been under grave  
7 threat and frequent attack from missiles, rockets,  
8 and mortar shells fired at Israeli civilian targets by  
9 militants from the Foreign Terrorist Organization  
10 Hamas on its southern border and by the Foreign  
11 Terrorist Organization Hezbollah on its northern  
12 border, which have killed, wounded, or inflicted psy-  
13 chological trauma on countless Israelis.

14 (3) The United States remains committed to  
15 Israel's qualitative military edge, including its ad-  
16 vantage over non-state actors such as Hamas and  
17 Hezbollah, which boast increasingly sophisticated  
18 and powerful weapons as a result of support from  
19 Iran, Syria, and other state actors.

20 (4) Regional stability and lasting peace between  
21 Israel and the Palestinians requires that the Govern-  
22 ment of Israel can ensure the safety of its popu-  
23 lation against rocket, missile, and other threats.

24 (5) The United States Government can help to  
25 advance its own vital national security interests and

1 the cause of peace by supporting Israel’s ability to  
2 defend itself against rocket, missile, and other  
3 threats.

4 (6) The Government of Israel announced in  
5 January 2010 the successful testing of its Iron  
6 Dome Short Range Artillery Rocket Defense Sys-  
7 tem, which is designed to intercept short-range rock-  
8 ets, missiles, and mortars launched by militants in  
9 Gaza and southern Lebanon.

10 (7) In the face of threats from its neighbors  
11 and non-state actors, Israel historically has sought  
12 the means to defend itself, by itself.

13 (8) President Barack Obama has stated: “Our  
14 commitment to Israel’s security is unshakable.”.

15 (9) Vice President Joe Biden has stated:  
16 “From my experience, the one precondition for  
17 progress is that the rest of the world knows this—  
18 there is no space between the U.S. and Israel when  
19 it comes to security—none.”.

20 (10) Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates has  
21 stated: “President Obama has affirmed, the United  
22 States commitment to Israel’s security is  
23 unshakable, and our defense relationship is stronger  
24 than ever, to the mutual benefit of both nations.”.

1           (11) President Obama recently requested funds  
2           to help the State of Israel procure and maintain  
3           Iron Dome missile batteries.

4 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL FOR**  
5 **IRON DOME ANTI-MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM.**

6           The President, acting through the Secretary of De-  
7 fense and the Secretary of State, is authorized to provide  
8 assistance to the Government of Israel for the procure-  
9 ment, maintenance, and sustainment of the Iron Dome  
10 Short Range Artillery Rocket Defense System for pur-  
11 poses of intercepting short-range rockets, missiles, and  
12 mortars launched against Israel.

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