

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 115

Recognizing the 64th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE (for herself, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. YODER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. WEST, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. NEAL, Mr. RUSH, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. KLINE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. TURNER of New York, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LANCE, Mr. HANNA, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. BOREN, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. McCLINTOCK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. PENCE, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. POSEY, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. FLORES, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. CANSECO, Mr. PITTS, Mr. WALSH of Illinois, Mr. MANZULLO, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. ADAMS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. MACK, and Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 64th anniversary of the independence of
the State of Israel.

Whereas on May 14, 1948, the State of Israel declared its
independence;

Whereas the United States was one of the first nations to recognize Israel, only 11 minutes after its creation;

Whereas Israel has provided the opportunity for Jews from all over the world to reestablish their ancient homeland;

Whereas Israel is home to many religious sites sacred to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam;

Whereas Israel provided a refuge to Jews who survived the unprecedented horrors of the Holocaust;

Whereas the people of Israel have established a pluralistic democracy which includes the freedoms cherished by the people of the United States, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of association, freedom of the press, and government by the consent of the governed;

Whereas Israel continues to serve as a shining model of democratic values by regularly holding free and fair elections, promoting the free exchange of ideas, and vigorously exercising in its Parliament, the Knesset, a democratic government that is fully representative of its citizens;

Whereas Israel has bravely defended itself from terrorist and military attacks repeatedly since independence;

Whereas the rocket attacks that have occurred in Israel in recent years have caused hundreds of casualties and have destroyed homes, schools, buildings, roads, power lines, and other significant infrastructure;

Whereas Israel has signed landmark peace treaties and successfully established peaceful bilateral relations with neighboring Egypt and Jordan;

Whereas it is imperative for all countries in the Middle East, and for United States' interests in the Middle East, that these peace treaties continue to be recognized and upheld by all involved parties;

Whereas despite the deaths of over 1,000 innocent Israelis over the last several years at the hands of murderous, suicide bombers and other terrorists, the people of Israel continue to seek peace with their Palestinian neighbors;

Whereas Iran, which rejects Israel's right to exist as a nation, is a continued threat to both Israel's and the United States' safety and security, both through its support of terrorist groups like Hamas and Hezbollah and through its ongoing efforts to acquire nuclear weapons;

Whereas the United States and Israel enjoy a strategic partnership based on shared democratic values, friendship, and respect;

Whereas the people of the United States share an affinity with the people of Israel and view Israel as a strong and trusted ally;

Whereas Israel has made significant global contributions in the fields of science, medicine, and technology; and

Whereas Israel's Independence Day on the Jewish calendar coincides this year with April 26, 2012: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) recognizes the independence of the State of
4 Israel as a significant event in providing refuge and

1 a national homeland for the Jewish people and in es-
2 tablishing a democracy in the Middle East;

3 (2) commends the bipartisan commitment of all
4 United States administrations and United States
5 Congresses since 1948 to stand by Israel and work
6 for its security and well-being;

7 (3) asserts its commitment to continue to stand
8 with Israel during times of uncertainty throughout
9 the Middle East and North Africa;

10 (4) expresses support for Israel's right to con-
11 front and eliminate nuclear threats posed by Iran,
12 defend Israeli sovereignty, and protect the lives and
13 safety of the Israeli people, including the use of mili-
14 tary force if no other peaceful solution can be found
15 within a reasonable time;

16 (5) congratulates the United States and Israel
17 for the strengthening of bilateral relations in recent
18 years in the fields of defense, diplomacy, and home-
19 land security, and encourages both nations to con-
20 tinue their cooperation in resolving future mutual
21 challenges; and

22 (6) extends warm congratulations and best
23 wishes to the people of Israel as they celebrate the
24 64th anniversary of Israel's independence.

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