

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5850

To provide for the inclusion of Israel in the visa waiver program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 2012

Mr. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. SCHOCK, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOLT, Mr. GRIMM, and Mr. DOLD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for the inclusion of Israel in the visa waiver program, 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 “Visa Waiver for Israel
5 Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. ISRAEL DESIGNATED AS A PROGRAM COUNTRY FOR**
7 **VISA WAIVER PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date described
9 in subsection (c), Israel shall be deemed a program coun-

1 try for purposes of section 217 of the Immigration and
2 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187).

3 (b) EXEMPTION FROM APPLICATION OF CERTAIN
4 REQUIREMENTS.—In the case of Israel, section
5 217(c)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
6 U.S.C. 1187(c)(2)(A)) does not apply.

7 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE; COMPLIANCE REQUIRE-
8 MENTS.—The date described in this subsection is the date
9 that the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation
10 with the Secretary of State, determines that Israel has
11 complied with the following:

12 (1) The government of Israel has entered into
13 an agreement with the Government of the United
14 States to report, or make available through Interpol
15 or other means as designated by the Secretary of
16 Homeland Security, to the United States Govern-
17 ment information about the theft or loss of pass-
18 ports within a strict time limit and in a manner
19 specified in the agreement.

20 (2) The government of Israel has entered into
21 an agreement with the Government of the United
22 States to share information regarding whether citi-
23 zens and nationals of Israel traveling to the United
24 States represent a threat to the security or welfare
25 of the United States.

1 (3) The government of Israel cooperates with
2 the Government of the United States on counterter-
3 rorism initiatives, information sharing, and pre-
4 venting terrorist travel, and the Secretary of Home-
5 land Security and the Secretary of State determine
6 that such cooperation will continue.

7 (4) The government of Israel issues all new and
8 reissued passports with biometric identifiers as de-
9 scribed in section 303 of the Enhanced Border Secu-
10 rity and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002 (8 U.S.C.
11 1732).

12 (5) The government of Israel has made every
13 reasonable effort, without jeopardizing the security
14 of the State of Israel, to ensure that reciprocal privi-
15 leges are extended to all United States citizens.

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