

Whereas the people of Israel have established a vibrant, pluralistic, democratic political system, including freedom of speech, association, and religion; a vigorously free press; free, fair and open elections; the rule of law; a fully independent judiciary; and other democratic principles and practices;

Whereas Israel has developed some of the leading universities in the world, and 8 Israeli citizens have been awarded the Nobel Prize;

Whereas Israel has developed an advanced, entrepreneurial economy, is among the world's leaders in the high-tech industry, and is at the forefront of research and development in the field of renewable energy sources;

Whereas Israel regularly sends humanitarian aid, search-and-rescue teams, mobile hospitals, and other emergency supplies, to help victims of disasters around the world, including the 1994 Rwandan civil war, the 1998 bombing of the United States Embassy in Kenya, the 1999 earthquakes in Turkey, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the 2005 hurricanes along the southern coast of the United States, and the 2007 fires in Greece;

Whereas Israel has absorbed millions of Jews from countries throughout the world and fully integrated them into Israeli society;

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

Whereas successive leaders of Israel have sought to achieve peace with Israel's Arab neighbors;

Whereas Israel has established peaceful bilateral relations with neighboring Egypt and Jordan and has made its desire to establish peaceful relations with all Arab states abundantly clear;

Whereas for 6 decades, the United States and Israel have maintained a special relationship based on mutually shared democratic values, common strategic interests, and moral bonds of friendship and mutual respect;

Whereas the American people feel a strong affinity for the Israeli people based on common values and shared cultural heritage; and

Whereas the United States continues to regard Israel as a strong and trusted ally and an important strategic partner: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the 60th anniversary of the reestablishment of the sovereign and independent State of Israel as a homeland for the Jewish people;

(2) reaffirms the bonds of friendship and cooperation which have existed between the United States and Israel for the past 60 years, and commits to strengthening those bonds;

(3) commends the people of Israel for their remarkable achievements in building a new state and a pluralistic, democratic society in the face of terrorism, as well as hostility, ostracism, and belligerence from many of their neighbors;

(4) reaffirms its support for Israel's right to defend itself against threats to its security and existence;

(5) reaffirms its enduring support for Israel as Israel pursues peace with its neighbors; and

(6) extends the warmest congratulations and best wishes to the State of Israel and the Israeli people for a peaceful, prosperous, and successful future.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I come to the floor today with the distinct honor of introducing a resolution with my friend Senator McCONNELL commemorating the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel.

On this historic occasion, Jews and non-Jews from around the world will come together to celebrate 60 years of Israeli independence. Out of the dark shadows of the Holocaust, which claimed the lives of over 6 million Jews, and many others, the state of Israel was reborn on the very same lands where the Jewish people had maintained a continuous presence for more than 2 millennia.

As an American, I am so proud that the United States has stood by Israel, our closest of allies, from the very beginning of its modern existence. On May 14, 1948, the date on which the people of Israel proclaimed the establishment of the sovereign and independent state of Israel, the United States was right there to offer our unwavering support and establish full diplomatic ties with our new friend. Sixty years later, I want the new generations of Israelis and Jewish-Americans to know that America reaffirms its commitment to the U.S.-Israel alliance and pledges to strengthen the bonds we have forged throughout the decades.

Yom Ha'atzmaut, the Israeli Independence Day, falls on May 8th this year, the same day the world traditionally celebrates the Allied victory over Nazism. Because of America's commitment to defeating European fascism, the histories of the United States and Israel will be forever linked. For it was from the ashes of World War II that our great country rose to become a global superpower at the same time a beacon of democracy and hope was established in the Holy Land.

Today, we face a new set of challenges to peace and freedom. As we have so many times before, the United States and Israel will stand together to combat those who seek to undermine the right of a Jewish state to exist. The Middle East remains an extremely volatile region with a series of ongoing violent conflicts, so it is a great comfort to know that we have a strong partner in such a strategically important part of the globe.

In a region long dominated by autocratic and monarchic traditions, Israel has been a paragon of democratic pluralism. Over the course of its modern existence, Israeli society has defended the principles we, as Americans, hold in such high esteem: freedom of speech, religion, and the press, an independent judiciary, and free market capitalism. Israel's strong democracy, despite being constantly under siege from neighboring states and terrorist entities, shows a remarkable commitment to the ideals of freedom and democracy.

Millions of Americans will undoubtedly commemorate this momentous anniversary, including thousands in my home State of Nevada. I am very fortunate to hail from a part of the country with such a dynamic Jewish community; one that is committed to promoting the interests of our great State in any way they can. I would like to offer special congratulations to all

those folks in Nevada who have worked so hard to put on events to honor the 60th anniversary of Israeli independence.

In the spirit of continuing the tradition of strong U.S.-Israel relations, I urge this entire chamber to wish all those who choose to celebrate this occasion another 60 years of happiness and prosperity. My best wishes for a safe and peaceful anniversary celebration.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4542. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4543. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4544. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4545. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4546. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4547. Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4548. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4549. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4550. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4551. Mr. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4552. Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4553. Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. STEVENS, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MARTINEZ, and Mr. COLEMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4554. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. WEBB) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4555. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4556. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4557. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4558. Mr. KYL (for himself, Mr. McCAIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BURR, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4542. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 124, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

(s) DEFINITION.—Section 14504a(a)(5) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking “title.” and inserting “title, except carriers that the unified carrier registration plan board of directors deems appropriate.”.

SA 4543. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 92, strike lines 15 and 16 and insert the following:

(3) in item number 1663 by inserting “and construct intermodal facilities and fixed guideways in Jersey City” after “right-of-way”; and

(4) in item number 614 by inserting “and for

SA 4544. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 110, after line 20, insert the following:

(e) PROJECT MODIFICATION.—The description for item 67 in section 3044(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Public Law 109-59) is amended to read as follows: “Union Passenger Terminal Planning and Master Plan and Infrastructure Improvements in Orleans Parish, Louisiana”.

SA 4545. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible,

Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 92, strike lines 15 and 16 and insert the following:

(3) in item number 1483 by striking the project description and inserting “Lapalco Boulevard Improvements in Jefferson Parish”; and

(4) in item number 614 by inserting “and for

SA 4546. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 8, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

(1) USE OF TOLL CREDITS.—Section 120(j)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “A State” and inserting “Subject to subparagraph (D), a State”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the use of Appalachian development highway system funds for any highway project relating to United States Route 219 (Corridor N) in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.”.

SA 4547. Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 119, after line 2, insert the following:

(s) PROJECT MODIFICATION.—The description for item 422 in section 3044(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Public Law 109-59) in amended to read as follows: “People Mover Public Transportation System buses and bus facilities, Anchorage, Alaska”.

SA 4548. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

(a) MILEAGE EXTENSION.—Section 14501(a) of title 40, United States Code is amended by striking “three thousand and ninety miles” and inserting “3,142 miles”.

(b) DEVELOPMENT OF MULTI-LANE HIGHWAY.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION.—A multi-lane highway, to be designated as Corridor P-1, shall be developed in Pennsylvania along the route de-

scribed in paragraph (2) as an extension of the Appalachian development highway system, with intersections and interchanges at appropriate crossroad locations.

(2) DESCRIPTION.—Corridor P-1 shall—

(A) extend approximately 52 miles along the alignment of United States Route 15 from its intersection with United States Routes 22 and 322 near Duncannon, Pennsylvania;

(B) extend northward, crossing the Susquehanna River north of Shamokin Dam, Pennsylvania;

(C) merge onto Pennsylvania Route 147; and

(D) proceed northward to the connection with Interstates 80 and 180 north of Milton, Pennsylvania.

(3) EFFECT ON APPORTIONMENTS.—The mileage and the estimate of the costs to complete Corridor P-1 shall not affect apportionments made to Pennsylvania to complete the Appalachian development highway system.

(4) FEDERAL SHARE.—Federal assistance authorized under section 14501 of title 40, United States Code, shall not be more than 80 percent of the cost of developing a 13-mile segment of Corridor P-1 designated by the Secretary of Transportation.

SA 4549. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 20, strike lines 13 and 14 and insert the following:

(19) in item number 777 by striking the project description and amount and inserting “Akutan Airport access” and \$3,500,000”, respectively;

On page 31, strike lines 20 through 23 and insert the following:

(98) in item number 161 by striking the project description and amount and inserting “Construct False Pass causeway and road to the terminus of the south arm breakwater project” and “\$1,000,000”, respectively;

SA 4550. Mr. GRAHAM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 107, line 4, strike “and” and all that follows through line 5, and insert the following:

(B) by striking paragraph (10); and

(C) in paragraph (15), by striking “South Carolina Department of Transportation Light Rail study” and inserting “South Carolina Department of Transportation Corridor Study”.

SA 4551. Mr. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4146 proposed by Mrs. BOXER to the bill H.R. 1195, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert: