

Equality (WISE); Dr. Tarunjit Singh Butalia, Executive Director, Religions for Peace USA; Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer, General Minister and President, United Church of Christ; Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray, President, Unitarian Universalist Association; Rev. Dr. Emma Jordan-Simpson, President, Auburn Seminary; Rev. Dr. Serene Jones, President, Union Theological Seminary.

CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for 30 minutes.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we appreciate your service for the citizens of Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Israel is a shining beacon of democracy in the Middle East. As she celebrates her 75th anniversary, I appreciate being joined by my colleagues to mark this important milestone of affirming our support for the U.S.-Israel relationship.

As chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia, I am grateful to mark the historic 75th anniversary of Israel with a strong commitment to the partnership of our two countries.

Since its creation, the United States has supported the Jewish state with bipartisan support from Congress, working to build a strong security, intelligence, and defense relationship enshrined by shared values and mutually strategic interests.

A strong and secure Israel is a vital pillar of the national security policy of America in the Middle East for mutual benefit of stability for all countries of the Middle East.

Congress has continually worked to support Israel with annual security assistance, defense cooperation, and an emerging relationship in key areas, including agriculture, high tech, homeland security, cybersecurity, science, space, and health.

Both of our countries are committed to democracy and justice, and we continue to look for new ways to integrate Israel into the region, such as expanding the historic Abraham Accords that were promoted by President Donald Trump that normalized ties between Israel and our Arab allies—the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan.

Instead of boycotts and isolation, I am encouraged that our Gulf allies see

the future of Israel as working with the Middle East to tackle regional problems.

Most importantly, Congress has marked the historic Abraham Accords by passing the Israel Relations Normalization Act of 2021 and encouraging more of our Middle East allies to deepen and expand their cooperation with Israel.

Israel is the democratic anchor of the Middle East, and Congress will continue to support important regional cooperation through partnerships for peace and prosperity, including the Negev Forum.

We support Israel's right to defend herself against terrorism, and we are inspired by the Israeli resistance in the face of mounting threats. The borders of Israel are continually threatened by Iranian-backed groups, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

Congress reaffirms its support for Israel's security by annually funding \$500 million for cooperative missile defense programs to help Israel meet these growing threats funded by the Iranian regime.

Without lifesaving defensive systems like the Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrow 3, both Israelis and Arabs living in the region would be more endangered than ever.

Israel is also threatened by continued efforts of the Iranian regime to get nuclear weapons. We are all concerned by the Iranian regime advancement of highly enriched uranium, advanced centrifuges, and its ballistic missile program, which it has never stopped despite every effort of the Iran nuclear deal, which was such a fraud.

Sadly, the Iranians never stopped developing ICBMs to attack Israel and attack, ultimately, of course, sadly, the people of the United States.

When the extremists chant "death to America, death to Israel," they pledge to wipe Israel off the map by vaporization.

We will continue to support efforts to enforce sanctions on the Iranian regime to cut off their resources and commitment to obtaining nuclear weapons.

As we look to the growing challenges ahead and compete with the Chinese Communist Party, we must continue to work with our trusted and strategic ally to advance U.S. interests, as we also need to address war criminal Putin in his invasion, aggression, and mass murder being conducted, sadly, in Ukraine as we speak tonight.

I am grateful to have authored H.R. 1777, the United States-Israel Future of Warfare Act, to meet increasing threats in areas of emerging technology by establishing a research and development fund to deepen defense collaboration with Israel.

Having visited Israel on several occasions, including the opening of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem in 2018, a highlight of my service has been to lead the House delegation to the U.S. Embassy

May 14 opening in Jerusalem with Ambassador David Friedman, fulfilling promises made, promises kept by President Donald Trump.

I will always cherish the warmth of the people, and I am grateful to partner with our ally in the charge ahead to prepare and confront the challenges of the next 75 years.

May the U.S.-Israel relationship continue to flourish. May we continue to promote our shared interests in supporting democracy, peace, and cooperation throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON).

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my great friend and leader from South Carolina for yielding time, and I appreciate the Speaker pro tempore leading us tonight.

Mr. Speaker, 75 years ago, the nation of Israel began anew, and it was a miracle. It was more than two millennia since Israel existed after the Romans sacked Jerusalem.

It was a miracle that Israel survived after gaining its independence in 1948 when all of its neighbors invaded with a goal of erasing the new Israel off the map.

Israel prevailed then and has many more times when the odds looked bleak. It is a miracle today that Israel has become one of the wealthiest economies in the world and a regional power. Israel is a miracle, and I thank God for it.

One of our previous Presidents said we need light between the United States and Israel, and today, I say unambiguously that I disagree. I believe that we should stand shoulder to shoulder with our ally.

We must support the security of Israel. America must stand closely by Israel when it is surrounded by many adversaries.

We can never forget that, over two millennia, when there was no Israel, Jews were targeted, abused, and often murdered throughout many places in the world.

Jewish history will not forget what happened in Kishinev in 1903, where 49 were murdered and hundreds were injured or raped, or in Odessa in 1905, where 400 Jews were murdered and 1,600 homes destroyed.

There are many of these barbaric examples, and we must never forget what happened in the 1930s and 1940s, where half of the Jewish population in Europe was murdered by the hands of the Nazis.

Israel is a safe haven today for the Jewish people from anywhere in the world where anti-Semitism and repression exist, and America must help make this safe haven secure.

In our support of Israel, we make clear the following:

We oppose Iran gaining a nuclear weapon while it threatens to wipe Israel off the map.

We oppose Iran's terrorism that seeks to murder Israelis and Americans.

We condemn the blood money that the Palestinian Authority pays to those who murder innocent Israelis and visiting tourists.

We oppose the boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement that seeks to isolate and weaken Israel.

We oppose all forms of anti-Semitism that we see today, and much of it is cloaked in anti-Zionist rhetoric.

Today, our two countries are allies. It is a win-win relationship where both countries come out stronger.

Let's remember Israel is the only democracy in the region, and they share our values. Congratulations to our friends in Israel on their 75th anniversary.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG).

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the U.S.-Israel alliance.

This historic partnership has been a critical driving force behind the promotion of peace, stability, and prosperity in the Middle East.

It is a partnership based on shared values and strategic interests. As we take a moment to commemorate this milestone, I draw attention to the unique relationship between Israel and my home State of Alabama.

Alabama was one of the first States to recognize the state of Israel back in 1948 and, in 1997, presented a formal memorandum of intent to promote trade and technology transfer.

□ 2140

Today, Israel is Alabama's 23rd largest export market, with significant collaboration on a number of projects, including missile defense and cybersecurity.

More than half of the U.S. military's foreign weapon sales are managed through the Missile Defense Agency at Redstone Arsenal. Redstone is also proud to lead four joint U.S.-Israeli programs at MDA, including David's Sling and the Iron Dome.

Today, let us reaffirm our commitment to the U.S.-Israel alliance and continue to work together to build a brighter future for both of our nations.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER).

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for organizing this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Israel's 75th birthday and 75 years of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

The bipartisan alliance is vital to America's national security and to our fight against terror, including the threat of Iran and its proxies.

Last night, we witnessed the IDF neutralize dangerous PIJ in the Gaza Strip. Day after day, as Israel is threatened, the Iron Dome stands strong against those who seek to do its people harm, whether that is Hamas or Hezbollah or Palestinian Jihad. I remain in steadfast support of Israel's

right to defend itself, because, as I said, Israel's security is key to America's national security. It is the democracy in the region.

Over 75 years, Israel has emerged as not only a beacon of democracy, but also a leader of technologic, economic, and security, both in Israel and, of course, in great support to the United States.

I have had the honor of visiting Israel many times and witnessed firsthand the country's beauty and the people's resilience. It is a homeland for Jews from around the world.

In my most recent trip, you can see and feel the palpable excitement about the Abraham Accords as Israel continues to make history as it normalizes with its Arab neighbors, expanding opportunities across the region, security protection, economic opportunity.

Over the past month, I joined two Congressional delegations to Israel with House leadership, showing Israel that our nations' strategic relationship is both bipartisan and stronger than ever. Mazel Tov to our most important Middle East ally, Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful to the gentleman for inviting me to be here this evening.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GOTTHEIMER.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) yielding me time and for having this event on a very special day for our great ally and friend, the nation of Israel.

Of course, as acknowledged, this is the 75th anniversary of its reformation back in 1948, but we know Israel's history goes much, much further into the past than those 75 years, to the early times in the Biblical days, and how important that is to all of us. Indeed, God's chosen people.

They have overcome a lot in their 75 years of existence currently, including the day after they were formed, to be attacked in war by five neighboring Arab countries trying to eradicate them.

They fought them off.

Allies around the world came in to help, with their own fierce determination to exist is what prevailed. Then in 1967, the 6-day war, as they were attacked, once again, while trying to peacefully exist.

Six years later, 1973—I remember that one—attacked once again.

They are constantly under threat from hostile territory. Thank goodness under the leadership of Israel and surrounding countries, with a lot of help from President Trump, we have the Abraham Accords in order to help promote more understanding and partnerships in that world with their neighbors, building upon that, a more positive relationship with Saudi Arabia, and a good relationship with their neighbor, Jordan.

Israel has bent over backwards to be that positive force in the area. They wish to peacefully coexist.

When I had the chance to visit Israel, three times now, and visit with the people and listen to their testimony, all they seek is solutions for peace to exist with their neighbors. When you get a chance to get feedback from Arab Israelis, people of Arabic descent that live in Israel, they don't want to leave. They know it is better there under that style of government and that kind of freedom than any other that they could live in. That speaks a lot to who the people of Israel are and what their goals are as a nation.

Of course, they are constantly under threat. Indeed, when they have bent over backwards with Land For Peace, giving back the Sinai and then giving back the Gaza Strip, what did they meet up with? Immediately after deeding over the Gaza Strip, rockets were installed there. Rockets rained down on Israel constantly.

If you talk to the people there in Israel, many of them that were in the zones of those rockets, know they have 15 seconds from alert to take cover.

What an existence.

Our alliance with them is very important because they are indeed a neighbor and a friend for all of us in the United States. Their innovation in areas of agriculture and water and drip irrigation, in the medical field, in aerospace, in missile defense, they are an important partner for us as they are an extremely industrial and innovative people. So we benefit greatly from that partnership.

I think those that would criticize what we do to help them, are in error for looking at it that way.

It is still the only truly free nation in the Middle East. It is the most tolerant and religious minority in the region by far; indeed a beacon of hope in the Middle East.

When political and economic freedom are possible, it can produce lasting success even in the most unlikely of places, but they always have that feeling of being attacked.

Hamas attacking Israel. Iran nearby wants to continue to sponsor terror groups while it pursues its own nuclear weapons program.

Hamas has, on many occasions, fired rockets into Israel, as I mentioned, with the aim of targeting civilian populations.

When Israel strikes back, it is very focused on being sure it hits only military targets and does not harm civilians. So there is a big difference between how they operate and what their neighbors, their hostile neighbors are trying to do to them.

It is important we have this alliance and that we maintain that and be strong for them because they are indeed the beacon of hope for the Middle East. They seek peaceful coexistence with their neighbors, and we should reward that with our continued backing and our continued friendship, because

the United States benefits from it as well, as well as those that believe that we have a longstanding tie that goes back to our founding in Israel's first existence on this Earth.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this time here to commemorate not only the 75th, but the greatness of Israel and the partnership we have.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for allowing me the time tonight.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMALFA. We appreciate his leadership and tireless efforts on behalf of the people of Israel.

Mr. Speaker, over the last week, I have had an extraordinary opportunity to truly appreciate the people of Jewish faith and what they have had to face. I visited Nuremberg in Germany, Courtroom 600, where the Nazi leadership anti-Semites were convicted of the Holocaust, murdering 6 million Jews. I was there to see the site of where these perpetrators, these Nazi murderers were ultimately executed.

Additionally, I had the opportunity over the weekend to visit Warsaw, Poland, the extraordinary people today of Poland, where I witnessed the Museum of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, where Jews heroically resisted the mass murder by the Nazis as the Soviets, sadly, were adjacent, shamefully stood by within sight of the city of Warsaw and did not help.

This really reminds us that the Russian people have been abused in the past by their leadership, whether it be Joseph Stalin or now-war criminal Putin. However, the people of Poland have resumed, they have the second fastest growing economy in the world, as they have escaped from Communist totalitarian oppression. So we know that ultimately good will prevail, as we see in the State of Israel today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MCCORMICK).

□ 2150

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel.

Seventy-five years ago, 11 minutes after David Ben Gurion announced the creation of the new Jewish state, President Harry Truman became the first world leader to recognize Israel. Our nations have been friends and partners ever since.

The people of Israel have won against overwhelming odds and repelled many attacks over the decades. They have not merely survived; they have created a free and prosperous society, becoming our most valued ally in the region.

What they have accomplished is nothing short of miraculous. They have revived a dead language and rejuvenated agriculture, technology, and prosperity. No matter what acts of terror or threats they face, Israel will always have the right to self-defense and self-determination.

I congratulate her people for this anniversary of independence in their historic homeland, and pray that they may be blessed with strength, peace, and unity for generations to come.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as we proceed, it should always be remembered that the United States and Israel have a long experience of a strong mutual beneficial relationship based on shared values and security interests, while also promoting peace and regional stability.

The United States and Israel face many shared threats. It is critical that Israel and the United States are at the forefront of emerging technology.

I was grateful to introduce the bipartisan U.S.-Israel Future of Warfare Act of 2023, which provides for collaboration between the two countries in the areas of defense, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and directed energy. This is done in a bipartisan manner with Congressmen STEVE COHEN of Tennessee, DAVID CICILLINE of Rhode Island, and DEAN PHILLIPS of Minnesota. Over and over again, this is bipartisan, and I am grateful that we worked together to promote our shared mutual interests with the people of Israel.

Israel's experience in combating terrorism is an invaluable resource in developing strategies to protect American families. The U.S.-Israel partnership supports over 255,000 American jobs. Bilateral trade has grown to over \$49 billion annually.

Israel is the leader in healthcare development. From cancer development to emergency response, Israel is a trusted partner to improve quality of life around the world.

As we conclude this evening, I would point out that my appreciation of the Jewish State of Israel is something that I was born with. I was very grateful to be born in the holy city of Charleston, South Carolina.

As we claim holy, it is not to disparage Jerusalem. We just have a significant number of churches that legitimately it can be the holy city of Charleston.

Growing up in Charleston, a very important fact is that at the time of the American Revolution the largest Jewish population in the New World was in Charleston, South Carolina.

The first provincial constitution to recognize Judaism as a religion was the provincial constitution of the province of South Carolina.

The first Jewish elected official was in the provincial assembly of South Carolina.

Sadly, the first Jewish American patriot killed in the American Revolution was in Charleston, South Carolina.

The people of South Carolina just cherish our relationship with the people of Jewish faith, and we are strong supporters of the State of Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, May 9, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER, Section 4022(b) of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (the "IRS Reform Act") requires the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation (in consultation with the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department) to provide a tax complexity analysis for all legislation reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means, if the legislation includes a provision that directly or indirectly amends the Internal Revenue Code and has widespread applicability to individuals or small businesses.

Pursuant to 3(h) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation has determined that a complexity analysis is not required under section 4022(b) of the IRS Reform Act because the bill, H.R. 1163, contains no provisions that exceed the numerical thresholds for individuals or small business which would require a complexity analysis, within the meaning of that rule.

Sincerely,

JASON SMITH,
Chairman,
Committee on Ways and Means.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Deputy Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 39. Joint Resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414".

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-884. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency with respect to the actions of the government of Syria declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, as modified, is to continue in effect beyond May 11, 2023, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 118-37); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-885. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department