**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL AND TO REAFFIRM THE BONDS OF CLOSE FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND ISRAEL.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

Whereas, Israel has been granted her lands under and through the oldest recorded deed, as recorded in the Bible; and

Whereas, the claim and presence of the Jewish people in Israel and their capital city, Jerusalem, have remained constant for more than 3000 years; and

Whereas, the Government of Great Britain issued the Balfour Declaration on November 2, 1917, defining the objective of reestablishing the Jewish National Home in the Land of Israel and facilitating its eventual independence as a modern Jewish state, a declaration accepted by every Allied and associated country at that time; and

Whereas, the legal basis for the reestablishment of the Jewish National Home in the Land of Israel and eventual declaration of Israel’s independence as the modern Jewish State was a binding instrument of international law enacted in the San Remo Resolution on April 25, 1920, by the Principal Allied Powers and associated countries; and

Whereas, that binding act of international law was then further recognized and incorporated in subsequent binding instruments of international law, namely Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, the Mandate for Palestine, the 1920 Franco‑British Boundary Convention as modified by the 1922 Demarcation Agreement, and the 1924 U.S.‑U.K. treaty; and

Whereas, none of the national and political rights thereby recognized as inhering in the Jewish People have ever been revoked, nullified, or superseded by a subsequent legally‑valid and binding document of international law; and

Whereas, Article 80 of the United Nations charter recognized the continued inviolable validity of the rights granted to states or peoples which already existed under international instruments, including the binding act of international law enacted in the San Remo Resolution; and

Whereas, the San Remo Resolution and League of Nations Mandate, and other aforementioned supporting subsequent acts, instruments and agreements of binding international law, legally predicated the eventual declaration of the modern State of Israel’s independence as the Jewish National Home in the Land of Israel, including the Jewish ancestral regions of Judea, Samaria, and Jerusalem; and

Whereas, the modern State of Israel declared its independence and self‑governance on May 14, 1948, thereby exercising its God‑given and legal right to reestablish the Jewish National Home as an independent State in the Land of Israel; and

Whereas, since its re‑establishment 70 years ago, the modern State of Israel has rebuilt a commonwealth, forged a new and dynamic democratic society, and created a thriving economic, political, cultural, and intellectual life for its people despite the heavy costs of war, terrorism, and unjustified diplomatic and economic warfare against the people of Israel; and

Whereas, Israel having 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; and

Whereas, Israel regularly sends humanitarian aid, search‑and‑rescue teams, mobile hospitals, and other emergency supplies to help victims of disasters around the world and has absorbed millions of Jews from other countries and fully integrated these immigrants into Israeli society; and

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

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel and to reaffirm the bonds of close friendship and cooperation between the State of South Carolina and Israel.

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