

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5734

To achieve a lasting peace in the Middle East and improve the economic situation for its people.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2014

Mr. STOCKMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To achieve a lasting peace in the Middle East and improve the economic situation for its people.

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 “Right of Return Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PLAN FOR PEACE.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

7 (1) The policy of the two-state solution and the
8 concept of “land for peace” have consistently failed
9 to bring about a lasting peace in the Land of Israel.

1 (2) In November 2014, Suha Arafat, wife of
2 former Palestine Liberation Organization chair Yas-
3 ser Arafat, stated in the Italian newspaper La
4 Repubblica that “The armed struggle today will not
5 lead to anything. We will only end up crushed.”. In
6 that same interview, Arafat also stated that “ Hamas
7 has taken people hostage” and “A generation . . .
8 is growing up in violence, with no education, with no
9 hope but emigration”.

10 (3) The Palestinian Authority has been offered
11 a sovereign state in virtually the entirety of the dis-
12 puted territories on multiple occasions, including in
13 2000, 2001, and 2008, and has rejected it each
14 time.

15 (4) The 2011 unemployment rate at 28.4 per-
16 cent for Palestinian Arabs, compared with 5.1 per-
17 cent for Israeli Arabs.

18 (5) A September 2007 survey by the Center for
19 Palestinian Policy and Research found that 32 per-
20 cent of Palestinian Arabs want to emigrate.

21 (6) The Emirate of Transjordan was created
22 out of the British Mandate for Palestine for the ex-
23 plicit purpose of being the home for Palestinian
24 Arabs by the Transjordan Memorandum in 1922.

1 (7) The concept of enabling people to move to
2 new homes in other territories was recommended as
3 a solution to the conflict by the Peel Commission in
4 1937 and was also recommended as a solution to the
5 conflict by the United Nations Partition Plan for
6 Palestine in 1947.

7 (8) The 2012 Levy Report found that the re-
8 gion of Judea and Samaria does not fall under the
9 jurisdiction of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention.

10 (9) The purpose of this bill is to increase the
11 economic wealth and civil rights of Palestinian
12 Arabs.

13 (b) PLAN FOR PEACE.—The Congress of the United
14 States shall take the following course of action:

15 (1) The Secretary of State shall call for the
16 State of Israel to increase the standard of living of
17 those living in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza by extend-
18 ing its sovereignty over those territories, and for the
19 Palestinian Arab residents currently residing in
20 those areas to be granted citizenship in the countries
21 that controlled those territories from 1949 to 1967
22 and have a right of return to those countries.

23 (2) As long as part of the unity government of
24 the Palestinian Authority refuses to allow the right
25 of return to the countries that controlled Judea, Sa-

1 maria, and Gaza from 1949 to 1967, no funds ap-
2 propriated by Congress under any Act may be obli-
3 gated or expended to provide any United States as-
4 sistance, loan guarantee, or debt relief to the Pales-
5 tinian Authority.

6 (3) The Secretary of State of the United States
7 shall take such action as will ensure that refugees
8 are allowed to be properly allowed to return into
9 their host countries in accordance with the regula-
10 tions set forth by the United Nations High Commis-
11 sion for Refugees (UNHCR).

12 (4) All United States assistance, loan guar-
13 antee, and debt relief that currently goes to the
14 United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Pales-
15 tinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) shall
16 instead be used to assist those who exercise their
17 right of return to the countries who controlled
18 Judea, Samaria, and Gaza from 1949 to 1967.

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