

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the 75th anniversary of the independence of the State of
2 Israel.

3 WHEREAS, the Jewish people established the sovereign and independent State of
4 Israel on May 14, 1948, and the United States of America immediately recognized and
5 established full diplomatic relations with Israel; and

6 WHEREAS, the uninterrupted dream of the Jewish people to reestablish their
7 independent state is directly linked to their historic sovereignty in the Land of Israel,
8 established 3,000 years ago with the city of Jerusalem as its capital then as it is now; and

9 WHEREAS, against all odds and overwhelming force, 75 years ago the brave new
10 nation of Israel immediately had to fight a war for independence, fiercely defending its
11 right to exist in a hostile world; and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Israel has remained the strongest ally of the United States
13 in the Middle East in the decades since its inception; and

14 WHEREAS, since its establishment, the modern State of Israel has rebuilt the
15 nation, forged a new and dynamic society, and created a thriving economic, political,
16 cultural, and intellectual life despite the heavy burdens of war and terrorism; and

17 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Israel, in the spirit of its Declaration of
18 Independence, have established a vibrant, pluralistic, and democratic political system;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the State of Israel has developed an advanced entrepreneurial
21 economy, has one of the world's leading technological industries and is at the forefront of
22 research and development in energy and medicine; and

23 WHEREAS, Israel contains sacred and holy sites of many of the world's religions,
24 including Christianity and Islam, and thousands of Kentuckians travel there each year to
25 see these sites and participate in a rich cultural exchange with the Israeli people; and

26 WHEREAS, Kentucky and the State of Israel have continually maintained a
27 relationship of honor and respect based upon mutual values of democratic freedom and a

1 desire for peace among all people of all nations; and

2 WHEREAS, the State of Israel is a valued trading partner with Kentucky, totaling
3 more than \$900 million in commercial transactions over the past decade; and

4 WHEREAS, the State of Israel ranks as the 25th largest exporter of goods to
5 Kentucky and the 26th largest importer of goods from the Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky is an unequivocal supporter of the
7 State of Israel and its right to defend itself against terror and any threat to its security; and

8 WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky remains
9 committed to a future where the State of Israel and its neighbors can live in peace, with
10 mutual recognition of each other's dignity and autonomy;

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

12 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
13 *Kentucky:*

14 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate, both collectively and individually, honor
15 and celebrate with great vigor, the 75th anniversary of independence of the State of
16 Israel.

17 ➔Section 2. The Senate reaffirms its strong support for all people of the State of
18 Israel to live in freedom and peace and as a blessing to all nations.

19 ➔Section 3. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in celebration and
20 honor of the 75th anniversary of independence of the State of Israel.