

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY REPRESENTATIVES HODGES, ABRAHAM, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAGNERIS, TERRY BROWN, COX, CREWS, DAVIS, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FALCONER, FOIL, GLOVER, HAZEL, HOLLIS, HORTON, HUVAL, IVEY, JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JORDAN, MACK, MARCELLE, MCFARLAND, MIGUEZ, JAY MORRIS, SHADOIN, WHITE, WRIGHT, AND ZERINGUE

COMMENDATIONS: Congratulates Israel on its seventieth anniversary, recognizes its contributions to humankind, expresses support for its people, and extends best wishes for a peaceful future

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To congratulate Israel on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of its establishment, to  
3 recognize the contributions of Israel to humankind, to express support for the people  
4 of Israel and for their right to live in freedom and to defend their land and their  
5 country, and to extend best wishes to the state of Israel and to the Israeli people for  
6 a peaceful and prosperous future.

7 WHEREAS, Israel was historically granted her lands under and through the oldest  
8 recorded deed, as found in the Old Testament, which is a tome of scripture revered by Jews  
9 and Christians alike as presenting the acts and words of God; and

10 WHEREAS, the desire of the Jewish people to establish an independent modern state  
11 of Israel is directly linked to the existence of the historic kingdom of Israel established in the  
12 land of Israel three thousand years ago, with the city of Jerusalem as its capital both then and  
13 now; and

14 WHEREAS, for over two thousand years, Jews living in other parts of the world  
15 maintained a profound spiritual and emotional connection to the land of Israel, and there has  
16 been continuous Jewish presence in the land comprising the modern state of Israel; and

17 WHEREAS, the internationally recognized legal basis for the establishment of the  
18 modern state of Israel was a binding resolution under international law that was unanimously

1 adopted by the League of Nations in 1922 and subsequently affirmed by both houses of the  
2 United States Congress; and

3 WHEREAS, this binding resolution affirmed the establishment of a national home  
4 for the Jewish people in the historical region of the land of Israel, including the areas of  
5 Judea, Samaria, and eastern Jerusalem; and

6 WHEREAS, Article 80 of the United Nations charter recognized the continued  
7 validity of the rights granted to states or peoples that already existed under international  
8 instruments, and therefore the 1922 League of Nations resolution remains valid, and the  
9 Jews currently residing in the areas of Judea, Samaria, and eastern Jerusalem reside there  
10 legitimately; and

11 WHEREAS, on May 14, 1948, the people of Israel proclaimed the establishment of  
12 the sovereign and independent state of Israel, with the goal of re-establishing its God-given  
13 and legally recognized land as a homeland for the Jewish people; and

14 WHEREAS, the establishment of the modern state of Israel as a homeland for the  
15 Jewish people followed the destruction of much of the European Jewry during the  
16 Holocaust; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States government established full diplomatic relations after  
18 Israel's first election in 1949; and

19 WHEREAS, since its establishment seventy years ago, the modern state of Israel has  
20 forged a new and dynamic society and created a thriving economic, political, cultural, and  
21 intellectual life; and

22 WHEREAS, the people of Israel, in the spirit of Israel's Declaration of Independence,  
23 have established a vibrant, pluralistic, democratic political system, which includes freedom  
24 of speech, association, and religion, a vigorously free press, free, fair, and open elections,  
25 the rule of law, a fully independent judiciary, and other democratic principles and practices;  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, Israel has developed some of the world's leading universities; and

28 WHEREAS, Israel has developed an advanced, entrepreneurial economy, is among  
29 the world's leaders of the high-tech industry, and is at the forefront of research and  
30 development in the fields of renewable energy sources and medicine; and

1           WHEREAS, Israel regularly sends humanitarian aid, search and rescue teams, mobile  
2 hospitals, and other emergency supplies to help victims of disasters around the world; and

3           WHEREAS, Israel has taken in millions of Jews from countries throughout the world  
4 and sought to fully integrate them into Israeli society; and

5           WHEREAS, Israel has established peaceful bilateral relations with Egypt and Jordan  
6 and has sought to achieve a secure peace with the Palestinians and Israel's other Arab  
7 neighbors; and

8           WHEREAS, for seven decades, the United States, the state of Louisiana, and Israel  
9 have maintained a special relationship based on mutually shared democratic and moral  
10 values, common strategic interests, and bonds of friendship and mutual respect; and

11           WHEREAS, the United States and the state of Louisiana continue to regard Israel as  
12 a trusted ally and vital strategic partner in the Middle East; and

13           WHEREAS, the American people and the people of Louisiana feel a strong affinity  
14 for the Israeli people based on common values and shared cultural heritage; and

15           WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana again wishes to re-affirm its desire that the United  
16 States of America remain a strong and unequivocal supporter of Israel and the right of Israel  
17 to defend itself in its own country; and

18           WHEREAS, April 18-19, 2018, the fifth day of Iyar, 5778 of the Hebrew calendar,  
19 marked the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the modern state of Israel in the  
20 ancestral homeland of the Jewish people.

21           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
22 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby congratulate Israel on the occasion of the seventieth  
23 anniversary of its establishment; does hereby recognize the contributions of Israel to  
24 humankind; does hereby express support for the people of Israel and for their right to live  
25 in freedom and to defend their land and their country; and does hereby extend its best wishes  
26 to the state of Israel and to the Israeli people for a peaceful and prosperous future.

27           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted  
28 to the Consul General of the State of Israel to the Southwest in Houston, Texas and to the  
29 Embassy of Israel to the United States in Washington, D.C., and Jerusalem, for transmission  
30 to the proper authorities in the state of Israel.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HR 2 Original

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

Hodges

Congratulates Israel on the 70th anniversary of its establishment; recognizes the contributions of Israel to humankind; expresses support for the people of Israel and their right to live in freedom and to defend their land and country; and extends best wishes to the state of Israel and the Israeli people for a peaceful and prosperous future.