

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 265

To recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, to relocate to Jerusalem the United States Embassy in Israel, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2017

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

---

## A BILL

To recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, to relocate to Jerusalem the United States Embassy in Israel, and for other purposes.

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 “Jerusalem Embassy  
5 and Recognition Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. RECOGNITION OF JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF**  
2 **ISRAEL AND RELOCATION OF THE UNITED**  
3 **STATES EMBASSY TO JERUSALEM.**

4 (a) **POLICY.**—It is the policy of the United States to  
5 recognize Jerusalem as the undivided capital of the State  
6 of Israel, both de jure and de facto.

7 (b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Con-  
8 gress that—

9 (1) Jerusalem must remain an undivided city in  
10 which the rights of every ethnic and religious group  
11 are protected as they have been by Israel since  
12 1967;

13 (2) every citizen of Israel should have the right  
14 to reside anywhere in the undivided city of Jeru-  
15 salem;

16 (3) the President and the Secretary of State  
17 should publicly affirm as a matter of United States  
18 policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided  
19 capital of the State of Israel;

20 (4) the President should immediately implement  
21 the provisions of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of  
22 1995 (Public Law 104–5) and begin the process of  
23 relocating the United States Embassy in Israel to  
24 Jerusalem; and

1           (5) United States officials should refrain from  
2           any actions that contradict United States law on  
3           this subject.

4           (c) REMOVAL OF WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Jeru-  
5           salem Embassy Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–45) is  
6           amended—

7           (1) by striking section 7; and

8           (2) by redesignating section 8 as section 7.

9           (d) IDENTIFICATION OF JERUSALEM ON GOVERN-  
10          MENT DOCUMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
11          sion of law, any official document of the United States  
12          Government which lists countries and their capital cities  
13          shall identify Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

14          (e) TIMETABLE.—

15           (1) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of  
16          the United States that the United States Embassy  
17          in Israel should be established in Jerusalem as soon  
18          as possible, but not later than January 1, 2019.

19           (2) OPENING DETERMINATION.—Not more than  
20          50 percent of the funds appropriated to the Depart-  
21          ment of State for fiscal year 2017 for “Acquisition  
22          and Maintenance of Buildings Abroad” may be obli-  
23          gated until the Secretary of State determines and  
24          reports to Congress that the United States Embassy  
25          in Jerusalem has officially opened.

1 (f) FISCAL YEARS 2017 AND 2018 FUNDING.—

2 (1) FISCAL YEAR 2017.—Of the funds author-  
3 ized to be appropriated for “Acquisition and Mainte-  
4 nance of Buildings Abroad” for the Department of  
5 State for fiscal year 2017, such sums as may be nec-  
6 essary should be made available until expended only  
7 for construction and other costs associated with the  
8 establishment of the United States Embassy in  
9 Israel in the capital of Jerusalem.

10 (2) FISCAL YEAR 2018.—Of the funds author-  
11 ized to be appropriated for “Acquisition and Mainte-  
12 nance of Buildings Abroad” for the Department of  
13 State for fiscal year 2018, such sums as may be nec-  
14 essary should be made available until expended only  
15 for construction and other costs associated with the  
16 establishment of the United States Embassy in  
17 Israel in the capital of Jerusalem.

18 (g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “United  
19 States Embassy” means the offices of the United States  
20 diplomatic mission and the residence of the United States  
21 chief of mission.

○