

SENATE RESOLUTION

8724

By Senators Carlyle, Wellman, Billig, Baumgartner, and Frockt

1 WHEREAS, 2018 marks the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the
2 modern State of Israel in the ancestral home of the Jewish people;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, On November 29, 1947, the United Nations General
5 Assembly voted to partition the British Mandate of Palestine, and
6 through that vote, to create the State of Israel; and

7 WHEREAS, Israel was officially declared an independent nation on
8 May 14, 1948, in fulfillment of the eternal desire of the Jewish
9 people to return to the land of the historic Kingdom of Israel
10 established 3,000 years ago and to the holy city of Jerusalem; and

11 WHEREAS, The modern State of Israel was born out of the ashes of
12 the Holocaust and World War II where the death of six million Jews
13 did not eliminate the will of a people to seek dignity in life and a
14 place of respect and recognition among the people of the civilized
15 world; and

16 WHEREAS, The people of Israel have established a vibrant,
17 pluralistic, democratic political system, including freedom of
18 speech, association, and religion; a vigorously free press; free,
19 fair, and open elections; the rule of law; a fully independent
20 judiciary; and other democratic principles and practices; and

21 WHEREAS, Israel has developed some of the leading universities in
22 the world, and eight Israeli citizens have been awarded the Nobel
23 Prize; and

1 WHEREAS, Israel has developed an advanced, entrepreneurial
2 economy, is among the world's leaders in the high-tech industry, and
3 is at the forefront of research and development in the field of
4 renewable energy sources; and

5 WHEREAS, Israel regularly sends humanitarian aid, search-and-
6 rescue teams, mobile hospitals, and other emergency supplies to help
7 victims of disasters around the world, including the 1994 Rwandan
8 civil war, the 1998 bombing of the United States Embassy in Kenya,
9 the 1999 earthquakes in Turkey, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the
10 2005 hurricanes along the southern coast of the United States, and
11 the 2007 fires in Greece; and

12 WHEREAS, Successive leaders of Israel have sought to achieve
13 peace with Israel's Arab neighbors; and

14 WHEREAS, Israel has established peaceful bilateral relations with
15 neighboring Egypt and Jordan and has made its desire to establish
16 peaceful relations with all Arab states abundantly clear; and

17 WHEREAS, For six decades, the United States and Israel have
18 maintained a special relationship based on mutually respected Judeo-
19 Christian values, common strategic interests, and moral bonds of
20 friendship and mutual respect; and

21 WHEREAS, Washington State and Israel share a dynamic and growing
22 trade relationship upon which the economies of Israel and Washington
23 State rely; and

24 WHEREAS, The people of Washington State share an affinity with
25 the people of Israel and view Israel as a strong and trusted ally;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate pause in its
27 deliberations to congratulate the State of Israel upon the occasion
28 of the 70th Anniversary of its independence and reaffirm the bonds of
29 friendship and cooperation between the State of Washington and
30 Israel; and

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate commend the people of
32 Israel for their remarkable achievements in building a new state and
33 a rule of law for everyone; and

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate extend its warmest
35 congratulations and best wishes to the State of Israel and the
36 Israeli people for a peaceful, prosperous, and successful future.

--- END ---