SJR29

Y45L62N-1

By Senators Orr, Roberts, Chesteen, Williams, Waggoner, Barfoot, Stutts, Shelnutt, Kitchens, Elliott, Hovey, Carnley, Kelley, Bell, Melson, Sessions, Livingston, Reed, Weaver, Allen, Butler, Chambliss, Albritton, Beasley, Coleman, Coleman-Madison, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Jones, Price, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart

RFD:

First Read: 05-Mar-24

SJR___ AFFIRMING THE STATE OF ALABAMA'S CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN RECOGNIZING ISRAEL AS A SOVEREIGN NATION.

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of World War II, the United States, along with the United Nations, recognized a need for the Jewish People to reestablish their historic homeland; in 1947, the United Nations General Assembly voted for the establishment of two states in Palestine and the United States supported the relocation of Holocaust survivors to Palestine; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 1948, at midnight, the Provisional Government of Israel proclaimed a new State of Israel; President Harry Truman, on the same date, became the first leader of a nation to recognize Israel as a sovereign government and authority of the Jewish state; and

WHEREAS, since 1948, the United States, and the State of Alabama, have continued to recognize the State of Israel as an independent nation; and

WHEREAS, most recently, President Donald Trump relocated the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, thereby recognizing the city as the capital of Israel; and

WHEREAS, Hamas was founded with a charter, including stated goals of the destruction of Israel and murder of Jews, and has been designated by the United States and many

other nations as a Foreign Terrorist Organization; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, Hamas launched a massive unprovoked war on Israel by air, land, and sea, firing thousands of rockets into the civilian population, and launching a planned genocidal rampage murdering and abducting Jews by raiding civilian homes and streets, slaughtering innocent men, women, children, babies, the elderly, and families with extreme cruelty, including gang-rape, sexual violence, torture, mutilation, execution, decapitation, burning alive, and other unspeakable acts; and

WHEREAS, targeting the 50th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War, the October 7, 2023, attacks represent the deadliest and most savage assault and brutal massacre of Jews since the Holocaust, including vicious atrocities, shocking barbarism, and vile crimes against humanity, and Hamas officials have publicly stated it is only the first of more to come; and

WHEREAS, Alabama and Israel share a commitment to deeply held common values from the history of each shaped greatly through the influence of Biblical faith, in addition to many nationally shared values as the only democratic ally of the United States in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama is an unequivocal supporter of the State of Israel and its right to defend itself against terror, aggression, and threat to the safety of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama is committed to the welfare, security, and survival of the State of Israel and

supports its legal, historical, and moral right to independence and self-determination in the ancestral homeland of the Jewish People; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama recognizes that all life is sacred, and every life lost is tragic and to be avoided, and remains committed to a future where the State of Israel and all her neighbors can live in peace, with mutual recognition of each other's dignity and sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, state officials and institutions have a responsibility to protect citizens from acts of hate and bigotry motivated by discriminatory animus and must be given the tools to do so; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That this body continues to support the United States in its affirmation of the independent and sovereign Nation of Israel and:

(a) Honors the memory of the innocent lives lost and commits to never forget the unwarranted and unjustified vicious assault on Israel and the Jewish People on October 7, 2023.

(b) Condemns Hamas and all those who support their violent, genocidal, and hateful acts - globally, in the United States, and in the State of Alabama.

(c) Reaffirms unequivocal support for the State of Israel as a Jewish state, recognizes that the Jewish People are indigenous to the land of Israel, condemns all attacks on the people of Israel, supports Israel's right to engage

in lawful acts of self-defense, opposes all attempts to economically and politically isolate Israel within the international arena, and opposes all efforts to assault the legitimacy of Israel as the sovereign homeland of the Jewish People.

(d) Stands with Israel and the Jewish People as they defend themselves and ensure the future safety of the Israeli people after the barbaric massacre and war initiated by Hamas and others to brutally violate, terrorize, slaughter, and ethnically cleanse the land of Jews.

(e) Rejects the claims that Jews are colonizers in their ancestral homeland, or occupiers in the land to which they are indigenous, with testimony including more than 3,000 years of archaeology and history.