

First Regular Session
Sixty-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R05-1012.01 Bob Lackner

SJR05-038

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Grossman,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Clapp,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 05-038

101 CONCERNING A REAFFIRMATION BY THE COLORADO GENERAL
102 ASSEMBLY OF THE STRONG BONDS CONNECTING THE UNITED
103 STATES AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND AN EXPRESSION BY THE
104 COLORADO GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY
105 WITH THE STATE OF ISRAEL IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST
106 TERRORISM.

1 WHEREAS, On November 29, 1947, the United Nations General
2 Assembly voted to partition the British mandate of Palestine and, by that
3 vote, created the state of Israel; and

4 WHEREAS, On May 14, 1948, the people of the state of Israel
5 proclaimed the establishment of the sovereign and independent state of
6 Israel; and

7 WHEREAS, The United States government recognized the state
8 of Israel just minutes after its declaration of independence and, at that
9 time, established full diplomatic relations with the nascent state; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 WHEREAS, The establishment of the state of Israel as a modern
2 homeland for the Jewish people followed the extermination of more than
3 six million European Jews during the Holocaust; and

4 WHEREAS, Since its establishment fifty-seven years ago, the
5 Israeli people have built a modern nation, forged a new and dynamic
6 society, and created a unique and vital economic, cultural, and intellectual
7 life while confronting immense pressures and burdens associated with
8 war, terrorism, ostracism from much of the international community, and
9 economic boycotts; and

10 WHEREAS, In spite of this severe degree of adversity confronting
11 them since 1948, including the War of Independence, the Six-Day War,
12 the Yom Kippur War, and the terrorist attacks of the two Intifadas, the
13 people of the state of Israel have established a vibrant and functioning
14 pluralistic and democratic political system that guarantees fundamental
15 freedoms of speech and of the press, free, fair, and open elections, and
16 respect for the rule of law; and

17 WHEREAS, At great financial and social cost, Israel has absorbed
18 several millions of immigrants from many nations around the world and
19 has made great strides in fully integrating these immigrants into Israeli
20 society; and

21 WHEREAS, For over half a century, the people of the United
22 States and the people of the state of Israel have created and maintained
23 a special relationship based upon mutually shared democratic values,
24 common strategic interests, and the bonds of friendship and mutual
25 respect; and

26 WHEREAS, The bonds connecting the United States and Israel
27 include increased economic ties between the two nations, particularly
28 increased trade between Colorado and Israel as evidenced by the
29 following facts: In 2003, Colorado exported approximately \$38 million
30 worth of goods to Israel; total Colorado exports to Israel have exceeded
31 \$250 million since 1991; in 2003, Israel ranked as Colorado's 21st leading
32 trade partner; and collaboration between Colorado-based and Israeli
33 business concerns is taking place in, among other things, the areas of
34 advanced technology, telecommunications, and health care; and

35 WHEREAS, The bonds connecting the United States and Israel
36 also include greater collaboration between scientific researchers in both
37 nations, including researchers in Colorado and Israel, and researchers in
38 Colorado and Israel are collaborating on scientific projects involving,
39 among other things, atmospheric science, applied chemistry and physics,
40 medicine, and agriculture; and

41 WHEREAS, The United States also has benefited from the
42 exchange of technology and expertise from Israel in the area of homeland
43 security, providing invaluable benefits to our nation in combating and
44 responding to terrorism; now, therefore,

45 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly*

1 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

2 (1) That we, the members of the General Assembly of the state of
3 Colorado, hereby reaffirm the strong bonds that have connected the
4 people of the United States and the people of the state of Israel together
5 through turbulent times for more than half a century.

6 (2) That we commend the people of the state of Israel for their
7 remarkable achievements in building a democratic and pluralistic society
8 in the wake of almost unrelieved adversity spanning the entirety of the
9 nation's existence.

10 (3) That we express empathy with the people of the state of Israel
11 as they endure a daily struggle against terrorism and violence and support
12 efforts to bring security to the Jewish and democratic state of Israel.

13 (4) That we express outrage against, and in the strongest possible
14 terms condemn, all acts of terror perpetrated against the Israeli people
15 with the intent and effect of murdering Israeli civilians, including women
16 and children.

17 (5) That we support the brave efforts of the government and
18 people of Israel in pursuing peace by way of negotiation.

19 (6) That we applaud the government of Israel's difficult and
20 painful decision to disengage from Gaza and the northern section of the
21 West Bank in order to advance peace negotiations.

22 (7) That we reaffirm the commitment of the American people to
23 a just, lasting, and secure peace for the people of the state of Israel and
24 all of the peoples of the Middle East.

25 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be
26 sent to President George W. Bush, Vice President Richard B. Cheney,
27 Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, His Excellency Daniel Ayalon, the
28 Ambassador of Israel to the United States, and to each member of
29 Colorado's congressional delegation.