

1 SJR22
2 197202-5
3 By Senators Orr and Waggoner
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 02-APR-19

1 SJR22

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4 ENROLLED, SJR22,

5 RECOGNIZING JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF ISRAEL AND
6 AFFIRMING THE U.S. EMBASSY MOVE.

7
8 WHEREAS, in 1943, in the midst of World War II, when
9 the Axis powers were not only waging world war against America
10 and Europe, but also seeking the systematic extermination of
11 the Jewish people, Alabama led the nation with an official
12 call for the establishment of the Jewish state and homeland
13 through a unanimous joint resolution (Act 144, SJR 4, 1943
14 Regular Session) five years before Israel was reborn as a
15 nation; and

16 WHEREAS, in the 75 years since that resolution,
17 Alabama has a long history of strong and steadfast support for
18 the State of Israel; and

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

24 WHEREAS, each sovereign nation, under international
25 law and custom, may designate its own capital; and

1 WHEREAS, Jerusalem has been the center of national
2 and spiritual life for the Jewish people since its early days
3 as a nation in biblical times; and

4 WHEREAS, throughout history, and the millennia of
5 its existence, Jerusalem has never been the capital of any
6 other sovereign nation; and

7 WHEREAS, with the establishment of the State of
8 Israel in 1948, Jerusalem became once again the capital of the
9 world's only sovereign Jewish state; and

10 WHEREAS, for 19 years Jerusalem was divided after
11 East Jerusalem - including the Old City - was taken in war,
12 annexed by Jordan, and ruled from its capital, Amman; and

13 WHEREAS, Jerusalem was reunited following the 1967
14 Six-Day War, the barriers dividing the city were demolished,
15 the gates of the Old City were opened to people of all faiths,
16 and East Jerusalem was reunified with West Jerusalem, making
17 whole again the nation's historic capital; and

18 WHEREAS, Israel continues to recognize Jerusalem as
19 its eternal undivided capital; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1995, the U.S. Congress passed, with
21 overwhelming bipartisan support and signed by President
22 Clinton, the Jerusalem Embassy Act, encoding in U.S. law the
23 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and requiring the
24 move of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem by 1999; and

1 WHEREAS, succeeding Presidents of both political
2 parties deferred moving the U.S. Embassy, signing temporary
3 waivers every six months, yet delaying the embassy move for
4 over two decades; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2017, the U.S. Senate (90-0)
6 specifically reaffirmed the 1995 Jerusalem Embassy Act as part
7 of a resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the
8 reunification of Jerusalem; and

9 WHEREAS, it was announced on December 6, 2017, that
10 the United States would no longer extend the 22-year delay,
11 would allow the 1995 law to be implemented, would officially
12 recognize Jerusalem as capital of Israel, and would relocate
13 the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem as required by U.S. law; and

14 WHEREAS, the U.S. Embassy was officially opened in
15 Jerusalem on May 14, 2018, the 70th anniversary of the Israeli
16 Declaration of Independence; now therefore,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
18 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do unequivocally recognize
19 Jerusalem as the eternal undivided capital of Israel, and do
20 fully affirm and celebrate the move of the U.S. Embassy to
21 Jerusalem.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is directed that
23 copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the
24 United States, to the Alabama Delegation to the United States
25 Congress, to the Governors of all the United States of

1 America, and to the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for
2 transmission to all the proper authorities in the State of
3 Israel.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR22
Senate 02-APR-19
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Adopted: 04-APR-19

By: Senator Orr