

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.108

Reps. Wittenberg and Berman offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to support the United States' relationship with
2 the State of Israel and the Middle East peace process and to call
3 on the President and Congress of the United States to continue
4 policies supporting this relationship.

5 Whereas, As a nation and a people, Israel exemplifies the
6 essence of the will to live and achieve, courage and perseverance
7 in the face of many obstacles, and dedication to democracy and
8 heritage; and

9 Whereas, Israel and the United States are key allies bound
10 closely by historic and cultural ties, shared values, and
11 governments committed to democracy, justice, human rights, and
12 freedoms, as well as by mutual interests including science,
13 politics, bilateral counterterrorism, and education; and



1 Whereas, Since Israel's founding in 1948, Congress has
2 repeatedly expressed the United States' unwavering commitment to
3 the security of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state through
4 economic and security assistance and partnerships and other
5 actions; and

6 Whereas, Supporting the U.S.-Israel relationship is a
7 bipartisan issue, as the continuation and strengthening of that
8 relationship is clearly in our nation's best national interest; and

9 Whereas, Cooperation between Israel and the United States is
10 of great importance, especially in the context of rising anti-
11 Semitism, authoritarianism, and security problems in Europe, the
12 Middle East, and North Africa; and

13 Whereas, American policy has long sought peace to the Middle
14 East and recognized that both the Israeli and Palestinian people
15 should be able to live in safe and sovereign states, free from fear
16 and violence, with mutual recognition; and

17 Whereas, The state of Michigan shares this commitment to a
18 strong relationship with Israel. In January 2017, Michigan became
19 the 16th state to enact laws condemning and outlawing
20 discrimination against Israel and Israelis. The state and
21 organizations within the state have made efforts to strengthen
22 business ties between Michigan's automotive and defense industries
23 and Israel's innovation and technical expertise; and

24 Whereas, Additional programs and partnerships between
25 Michigan's and Israel's institutions and residents continue to
26 benefit both parties. Michigan universities, such as the University
27 of Michigan, have partnered with universities in Israel, including
28 Ben Gurion University in the Negev and Technion Institute of
29 Technology, to support and foster research, innovation, and



1 collaboration. Programs have consistently brought members of the
2 Michigan Jewish community to Israel and Israelis to Michigan to
3 create new relationships and strengthen Jewish identity; and

4 Whereas, The potential for greater cooperation with Israel for
5 the benefit of Michigan is unlimited but depends on continuing and
6 strengthening the relationship between the United States and
7 Israel; now, therefore, be it

8 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we encourage
9 continuing support for the relationship of the United States and
10 Michigan to Israel, the Middle East peace process, and Israel's
11 right to exist and defend itself; and be it further

12 Resolved, That we call on the President and Congress of the
13 United States to continue the mutually beneficial, bipartisan
14 policies which enhance the economic stability and security of the
15 State of Israel; and be it further

16 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
17 President of the United States, the President of the United States
18 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
19 and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.