

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 29

Recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 2, 2017

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

Whereas the Jewish people have had a homeland in modern-day Israel for more than 3,000 years;

Whereas, on November 2, 1917, United Kingdom Foreign Secretary Lord Arthur Balfour wrote to Lord Walter Rothschild, to be declared to the Zionist Federation, a letter declaring, on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom, support for a home for the Jewish people in the former Ottoman district of Palestine;

Whereas this letter, known as the Balfour Declaration, was ratified into international law by the League of Nations on July 24, 1922;

Whereas, on September 21, 1922, President Warren G. Harding signed House Joint Resolution 322, after unanimous support from the House of Representatives and the Senate, favoring the establishment, in the former Ottoman district of Palestine, of a national home for the Jewish people;

Whereas the Balfour Declaration clearly recognized and sought to uphold the “civil and religious rights of the existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine”, as well as the “rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country”; and

Whereas the Balfour Declaration was a significant part of the chain of events that led to the establishment of the modern State of Israel on May 14, 1948: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) commemorates the centenary of the Balfour
4 Declaration;

5 (2) affirms its commitment to maintaining the
6 strongest of bilateral ties with the State of Israel;
7 and

8 (3) recognizes the importance of the establish-
9 ment of the modern State of Israel as a secure and
10 democratic homeland for the Jewish people.

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