

achievement of the two-state solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace"; and

Whereas, by referring to the "4 June 1967 lines" as the basis for negotiations, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively states that the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, are "occupied territory," thereby equating these sites with outposts in the West Bank that the Israeli government has deemed illegal; and

Whereas, passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively lends legitimacy to efforts by the Palestinian Authority to impose its own solution through international organizations and through unjustified boycotts or divestment campaigns against Israel, and will require the United States and Israel to take effective action to counteract the potential harmful impact of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334; and

Whereas, the Obama Administration's decision not to veto United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 is inconsistent with long-standing United States policy and makes direct negotiations more, not less, challenging; and

Whereas, Israel has been granted her lands under and through the oldest recorded deed, as recorded in the Old Testament scriptures held sacred and revered by Jews and Christians alike, as presenting the acts and words of God; and

Whereas, the claim and presence of the Jewish people in Israel has remained constant throughout the past four thousand years of history; and

Whereas, the legal basis for the establishment of the modern state of Israel was a binding resolution under international law, which was unanimously adopted by the League of Nations in 1922 and subsequently affirmed by both houses of the United States Congress; and

Whereas, this resolution affirmed the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in the historical region of the land of Israel, including the areas of Judea, Samaria, and Jerusalem; and

Whereas, Article 80 of the United Nations Charter 22 recognized the continued validity of the rights granted to states or peoples which already existed under international instruments, and therefore the 1922 League of Nations resolution remains valid, and the six hundred fifty thousand Jews currently residing in the areas of Judea, Samaria, and eastern Jerusalem reside there legitimately; and

Whereas, Israel declared its independence and self-governance on May 14, 1948, with the goal of reestablishing its God-given and legally recognized lands as a homeland for the Jewish people; and

Whereas, the United States, having been the first country to recognize Israel as an independent nation and as Israel's principal ally, has enjoyed a close and mutually beneficial relationship with Israel and her people; and

Whereas, there are increasing incidents of anti-Semitism around the world, including across the United States reflected in official hate crime statistics; and

Whereas, the international boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement is one of the main vehicles for spreading anti-Semitism and advocating for the elimination of the Jewish State; and

Whereas, the dramatic increase in boycott, divestment, and sanctions campaign activities on college campuses around the country has resulted in increased animosity and intimidation against Jewish students, negatively impacting student programming related to the State of Israel and politics in the Middle East; and

Whereas, leaders of the boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement say their goal is to eliminate Israel as the home of the Jewish people; and

Whereas, messaging at anti-Israel rallies has adopted the boycott, divestment, and sanctions slogan: "from the river to the sea Palestine will be free" which means that there would be no Israel between the Jordan River and Mediterranean Sea and that the State of Israel will cease to exist; and

Whereas, Israel is the greatest friend and ally of the United States in the Middle East and the values of our two nations are so intertwined that it is impossible to separate one from the other; and

Whereas, a strong and independent Israel supports our long cherished beliefs of democracy and liberty which we believe is the right of all mankind; and

Whereas, there are those in the world who have continually sought to destroy Israel, from the time of its inception as a state, and those same enemies of Israel also hate, and seek to destroy, the United States; and

Whereas, the promise of the God of Israel, who is the Creator acknowledged in our own Declaration of Independence and referenced by our own Founding Fathers in the creation of our nation, is that He will bless those who bless Israel. Let it be known that the State of South Dakota openly blesses Israel with our friendship and that we stand in support of the Israeli people and celebrate our many culture ties and gratitude for our cordial and mutually beneficial relations since 1948, a friendship that continues to strengthen with each passing year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Second Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature calls on Congress and President Donald J. Trump to oppose and counteract United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 against Israel by all means necessary; and be it further

Resolved, That South Dakota stands proudly with Israel and thanks our only Middle East democracy, for Israel's cordial and mutually beneficial relationship with the United States and with the state of South Dakota. We stand in support of Israel in its legal, historical, moral, and God-given right of self-governance and self-defense of the entirety of its own lands. We recognize that Israel is neither an attacking force nor an occupier of the lands of others, and that peace in the Middle East for us, is contingent on a whole and united Israel; and be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk of the House of Representatives prepare copies of this resolution and forward them to the President of the United States, the speaker and clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the president and secretary of the United States Senate, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper authorities in the State of Israel.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 178. A bill to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases (Rept. No. 115-9).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Tony D. Bauernfeind and ending with Brig. Gen. Mark E. Weatherington, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 9, 2017. (minus 1 nominee: Brig. Gen. Mark D. Camerer)

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Dagvin R. M. Anderson and ending with Col. David H. Tabor, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 9, 2017.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Paul A. Ostrowski, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Sean B. MacFarland, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Francisco A. Espallat, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Col. Jeffrey A. Roach, to be Brigadier General.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 704. A bill to provide that members of the Armed Forces performing services in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt shall be entitled to tax benefits in the same manner as if such services were performed in a combat zone; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUNT, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 705. A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRANKEN:

S. 706. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the treatment of medical evidence provided by non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical professionals in support of claims for disability compensation under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. NELSON):

S. 707. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that pass-through businesses do not pay tax at a higher rate than corporations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 708. A bill to improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. NELSON:

S. 709. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency from taking administrative action to recover certain payments for disaster or emergency assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 710. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 711. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for S corporation reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. KING, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 712. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform the rights and processes relating to appeals of decisions regarding claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 713. A bill to establish the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area in the State of Washington; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 714. A bill to amend Public Law 103-434 to authorize Phase III of the Yakima River Basin Water Basin Water Enhancement Project for the purposes of improving water management in the Yakima River basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 715. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States the condition that certain lands conveyed to the City of Old Town, Maine, be used for a municipal airport, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. LEE):

S. 716. A bill to require that any debt limit increase be balanced by equal spending cuts over the next decade; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 717. A bill to promote pro bono legal services as a critical way in which to empower survivors of domestic violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 718. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make college affordable and accessible; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. PETERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 719. A bill to establish a grant program at the Department of Homeland Security to promote cooperative research and development between the United States and Israel on cybersecurity; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 720. A bill to amend the Export Administration Act of 1979 to include in the prohibi-

tions on boycotts against allies of the United States boycotts fostered by international governmental organizations against Israel and to direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States to oppose boycotts against Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 721. A bill to require the disclosure of certain visitor access records; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CORKER (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BENNET, Mr. RISCH, Mr. COONS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. DONNELLY):

S. 722. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. SASSE, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. Res. 92. A resolution expressing concern over the disappearance of David Sneddon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. Res. 93. A resolution congratulating the European Union on the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome, which established the European Economic Community and laid the foundation for decades of European peace and prosperity; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Ms. HARRIS):

S. Res. 94. A resolution designating March 2017 as "National Read Aloud Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. Res. 95. A resolution designating March 22, 2017, as "National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. Res. 96. A resolution designating March 25, 2017, as "National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SHELBY (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 97. A resolution authorizing the printing of a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 168

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 168, a bill to amend and enhance certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation.

S. 170

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to provide for nonpreemption of measures by State and local governments to divest from entities that engage in commerce-related or investment-related boycott, divestment, or sanctions activities targeting Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 301

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 301, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit governmental discrimination against providers of health services that are not involved in abortion.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 389

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 389, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that kombucha is exempt from any excise taxes and regulations imposed on alcoholic beverages.

S. 394

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 394, a bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to provide that a member of the Armed Forces and the spouse of that member shall have the same rights regarding the receipt of firearms at the location of any duty station of the member.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 448

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 448, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of clinical psychologists as physicians for purposes of furnishing clinical psychologist services under the Medicare program.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were