

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 112

BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To commend Governor Yossi Dagan, governor of the Shomron (Samaria) Regional Council in Israel, for his efforts to strengthen Judea and Samaria and to declare and observe May 14, 2025, as International Declaration Day in Louisiana to commemorate the anniversary of Israel's Declaration of Independence.

WHEREAS, seventy-six years ago on May 14, 1948, at 6:11p.m., President Harry S. Truman led the world in support of the reborn Jewish homeland when he made the bold historic decision to recognize the newly declared State of Israel, just eleven minutes after its proclamation by Israel's first Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion who stood before the world and declared Jewish Independence, thereby ending two thousand years of exile and igniting a new era of hope and sovereignty for the biblical land of Israel; and

WHEREAS, May 14, 2025, serves as International Declaration Day that is a global initiative to commemorate the anniversary of Israel's Declaration of Independence and to celebrate a miracle that is two thousand years in the making; and

WHEREAS, Israel was originally and historically granted her lands under and through the oldest recorded deed, as provided in the Old Testament, a tome of scripture held sacred and revered by Jews and Christians alike as presenting the acts and words of God; and

WHEREAS, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob promised in Genesis 12:3 to bless those that bless Israel, through the promise He made to Abraham: "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse them that curseth thee: and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed"; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 1948, the provisional government of Israel proclaimed the rebirth of the State of Israel, thereby fulfilling the biblical prophesy in Isaiah 66:8 that the nation would be (re)born in a single day; and

WHEREAS, over the centuries the city of Jerusalem has come to symbolize the love of the Jewish people for their ancient homeland and on June 7, 1967, the third day of the Six Day War, soldiers of Israel's Defense Forces entered the old city of Jerusalem and reunited the city, thereby making Jerusalem once again an integral part of the Jewish state along with the other cities and towns within Judea and Samaria; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has a special connection to Judea and Samaria, evidenced by the fact that many towns and cities across Louisiana bear the same names as those Biblical cities located in Judea and Samaria, such as Bethel, Hebron, and Shiloh; and

WHEREAS, many of the Israeli citizens living within the Biblical cities and towns located in Judea and Samaria have suffered from fear and heightened anxiety following the brutal massacre of Israeli citizens on October 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, restoring the Jewish people to the land of Judea and Samaria in Israel is confirmed in the Bible as part of God's plan to bring the Jewish people from the ends of the earth back to their historical homeland in the State of Israel; and

WHEREAS, the October 7th massacre clearly showed that fortifying and strengthening the Jewish cities in Judea and Samaria is critical to the very security and future of the State of Israel; and

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby encourage all Louisiana citizens to observe and celebrate at 6:11p.m. on May 14, 2025, as International Declaration Day to commemorate the anniversary of Israel's Declaration of Independence.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Governor Yossi Dagan, governor of the Shomron (Samaria) Regional Council in Israel, for his efforts to strengthen Judea and Samaria and to declare and observe May 14, 2025, as International Declaration Day in Louisiana to commemorate the anniversary of Israel's Declaration of Independence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Governor Yossi Dagan, governor of the Shomron (Samaria) Regional Council in Israel.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE