

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 228

BY REPRESENTATIVES HODGES, AMEDEE, BAGLEY, BROADWATER, TERRY BROWN, COX, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FALCONER, GUINN, LANCE HARRIS, HAVARD, HORTON, HOWARD, JACKSON, JAMES, JORDAN, MACK, MAGEE, MCFARLAND, MIGUEZ, JAY MORRIS, POPE, TALBOT, AND ZERINGUE

A RESOLUTION

To express support for the people of Israel and for their right to live in freedom and to defend themselves, to recognize the longstanding friendship between the people of Israel and the people of Louisiana, to condemn any and all efforts to boycott, divest from, and sanction Israel, and to extend best wishes to the people of Israel for peace, security, and prosperity.

WHEREAS, the land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people, where their spiritual, religious, and national identity was formed, where they achieved independence, and where they have created a culture of national and universal significance; and

WHEREAS, Israel is the foremost leader in the Middle East and a shining example for the rest of the world relative to the recognition of the basic equality and dignity of women, providing full and equal opportunities for women to vote, hold elected office, own property, and pursue and engage in any occupation, profession, or trade; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States, including the citizens of Louisiana, have long experienced a close and mutually beneficial relationship with Israel and her people, share strong economic ties, and each year enjoy the traditions of trade, foreign investment, and job creation as a result of doing business with Israel; and

WHEREAS, since its establishment on May 14, 1948, Israel has had to defend herself and her right to exist; the people of Israel have been persecuted throughout history, and there are still those who express a desire for the destruction of Israel; and

WHEREAS, Israel faces continued threats to her safety and security today, including incidents of anti-Semitism throughout the world and an international movement that promotes boycotting, divestment from, and sanctioning Israel; and

WHEREAS, this movement contributes to the support of anti-Semitic sentiments, fosters discrimination against Jewish people throughout the world, and is harmful to the state's Jewish citizens and to Louisiana's relationship with the Jewish homeland of Israel; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress and several state legislatures have introduced resolutions condemning this movement, and it is fitting that Louisiana also denounce it officially and reaffirm the state's wholehearted and unwavering support of Israel.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express support for the people of Israel and for their right to live in freedom and to defend themselves; does hereby recognize the longstanding friendship between the people of Israel and the people of Louisiana; does hereby condemn any and all efforts to boycott, divest from, and sanction Israel; and does hereby extend to the people of Israel best wishes for peace, security, and prosperity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Ambassador of Israel to the United States.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES