

1 A RESOLUTION affirming the Senate's and the Commonwealth of Kentucky's
2 support of Israel, our greatest friend and ally in the Middle East, and expressing our
3 solidarity with Israel's right to defend itself against terrorist attacks.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, is the
5 greatest friend, ally, and strategic partner of the United States in the region; and

6 WHEREAS, there is a strong historic bond of spiritual, cultural, economic, social,
7 business, governmental, and educational relationships between America, this
8 Commonwealth, and the State of Israel; and

9 WHEREAS, Israel is a valued economic partner of the Commonwealth of
10 Kentucky. In 2020, Kentucky exported more than \$127 million worth of manufacturing
11 goods to Israel. Since 1996, Kentucky exports to Israel have totaled more than \$1.3
12 billion and Israel now ranks as Kentucky's 25th leading trade partner; and

13 WHEREAS, cooperation between Israel and the Commonwealth of Kentucky is of
14 great importance; and

15 WHEREAS, since Israel's founding in 1948, the United States has repeatedly
16 expressed our nation's unwavering commitment to the security of Israel; and

17 WHEREAS, the Senate recognizes the importance of expressing its unabridged
18 support for the Jewish people and the State of Israel's right to exist, right to free trade, and
19 right of self-defense; and

20 WHEREAS, throughout the years, the General Assembly of Kentucky
21 overwhelmingly approved bipartisan resolutions pledging its support for all people of the
22 State of Israel to live in freedom and peace, secure from terror, and declaring Israel a
23 blessing to all nations; and

24 WHEREAS, Israel holds great spiritual meaning for many Kentuckians, from Safed
25 and Tiberias, to Hebron, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem, Israel's Capital; and

26 WHEREAS, Kentucky and Israel have continually maintained a relationship of
27 honor and respect based upon mutual values of democratic freedom and desire for peace

1 among all people of all nations;

2 NOW, THEREFORE,

3 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
4 *Kentucky:*

5 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate, both collectively and individually, urge
6 continued and steadfast support of Israel because we have no greater ally in our efforts to
7 preserve peace and secure our interests in the Middle East.

8 ➔Section 2. The Senate affirms its unwavering commitment to our friend and
9 ally, Israel, recognizes that the Jewish people are indigenous to the land of Israel, opposes
10 all attempts to deny the legitimacy of Israel as a sovereign state, denounces the deadly
11 attacks on the people of Israel, and supports Israel's right to engage in lawful acts of self-
12 defense against terror by whatever means necessary to stop the murder of Israeli citizens
13 and foreign nationals residing in Israel.

14 ➔Section 3. The Senate supports and stands with Israel as it defends its people
15 from reprehensible terrorists.

16 ➔Section 4. The Senate reaffirms its strong support for all people of the State of
17 Israel to live in freedom and peace, secure from terror, and as a blessing to all nations.