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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1037 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY SIMS, FRANKEL, COHEN, BIZZARRO, ROZZI, KIRKLAND,  
KINSEY, MACKENZIE, COOK-ARTIS, LONGIETTI, CALTAGIRONE,  
DRISCOLL, ROTHMAN, SCHREIBER, SCHLOSSBERG, SACCONI, BAKER,  
SAYLOR, DIGIROLAMO, O'BRIEN, THOMAS, MILLARD, M. DALEY,  
SANTARSIERO, YOUNGBLOOD, SAVAGE, KLUNK, D. COSTA, McCARTER  
AND DeLUCA, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring the Israeli Consulate in the City of  
2 Philadelphia for its impact on the City of Philadelphia, the  
3 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region and the  
4 United States.

5 WHEREAS, From 1961 to 2016, the Israeli Consulate  
6 headquartered in the City of Philadelphia served as the official  
7 representative of the State of Israel to the Mid-Atlantic  
8 region, which included Delaware, Kentucky, southern New Jersey,  
9 Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia; and

10 WHEREAS, The Israeli Consulate acted as the liaison between  
11 the residents of Israel and the residents of the Mid-Atlantic  
12 region; and

13 WHEREAS, Through activities and events in the areas of  
14 academia, culture, economy, politics, public diplomacy and  
15 social media, the Israeli Consulate promoted knowledge and  
16 understanding of Israel and fostered friendship between the

1 residents of Israel and the residents of the Mid-Atlantic  
2 region; and

3 WHEREAS, The Department of Arts and Culture of the Israeli  
4 Consulate collaborated with the Mid-Atlantic region's cultural,  
5 academic and community institutions and organizations to present  
6 a vast array of programs and events, including concerts, theater  
7 productions, film festivals and screenings, exhibitions,  
8 literary programs and chef workshops, in order to celebrate  
9 Israeli culture, encourage cultural dialogue and foster a  
10 multifaceted understanding of contemporary Israeli society; and

11 WHEREAS, The Department of Community Relations of the Israeli  
12 Consulate worked to foster cooperation and strengthen  
13 relationships between Jewish and non-Jewish communities in the  
14 Mid-Atlantic region by sponsoring seminars and roundtables  
15 addressing issues within both groups; and

16 WHEREAS, The primary goal of the Office of Economic Affairs  
17 of the Israeli Consulate was to increase investment and trade  
18 between companies in Israel and companies in the Mid-Atlantic  
19 region and to forge new business partnerships based on mutual  
20 benefits, equality and reciprocity; and

21 WHEREAS, The Department of Governmental Affairs of the  
22 Israeli Consulate, which served not as a lobbying body but as  
23 the official representative for the State of Israel, had a  
24 mission to effectively communicate Israel's official policy and  
25 position to Federal and state legislators in the United States,  
26 while also acting as an information and communication resource  
27 for legislators and members of their staff; and

28 WHEREAS, The Israeli Consulate served as an economic and  
29 political connection between the Greater Philadelphia region and  
30 the State of Israel for more than 50 years; and

1       WHEREAS, Following a decision by the Israeli Ministry of  
2 Foreign Affairs, the Israeli Consulate in the City of  
3 Philadelphia was scheduled for closure on August 15, 2016; and

4       WHEREAS, The Consulate General of Israel in New York City has  
5 been designated to assume the responsibility of representing  
6 Israel to Delaware, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania; therefore  
7 be it

8       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and  
9 honor the Israeli Consulate in the City of Philadelphia for its  
10 impact on the City of Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of  
11 Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic region and the United States; and  
12 be it further

13       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
14 the Consul General at the Consulate General of Israel in New  
15 York City, 800 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017.