

State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

490Y0665

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. **1014**

Introduced by: Representative Haugaard and Senators Nelson and Russell

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Expressing the strongest support for, and unity with, the
2 State of Israel and recognizing Jerusalem, as Israel's undivided capital.

3 WHEREAS, the United States has long supported a negotiated settlement leading to a
4 sustainable two-state solution with the democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized,
5 democratic Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security; and

6 WHEREAS, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 claims "the establishment
7 by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East
8 Jerusalem, has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and
9 a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-state solution and a just, lasting and
10 comprehensive peace"; and

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-
13 Second Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the
14 Legislature calls on Congress and President Donald J. Trump to oppose and counteract United
15 Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 against Israel by all means necessary; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that South Dakota stands proudly with Israel and thanks
17 our only Middle East democracy, for Israel's cordial and mutually beneficial relationship with
18 the United States and with the state of South Dakota. We stand in support of Israel in its legal,
19 historical, moral, and God-given right of self-governance and self-defense of the entirety of its
20 own lands. We recognize that Israel is neither an attacking force nor an occupier of the lands
21 of others, and that peace in the Middle East for us, is contingent on a whole and united Israel;
22 and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chief clerk of the House of Representatives prepare
24 copies of this resolution and forward them to the President of the United States, the speaker and

1 clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the president and secretary of the United
2 States Senate, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper
3 authorities in the State of Israel.