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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. _____

Supporting the announcements of the establishment of full diplomatic relations between the State of Israel and the United Arab Emirates and the State of Israel and the Kingdom of Bahrain, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ENGEL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Supporting the announcements of the establishment of full diplomatic relations between the State of Israel and the United Arab Emirates and the State of Israel and the Kingdom of Bahrain, and for other purposes.

Whereas on August 13, 2020, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), announced an agreement to normalize relations between their two countries, and Israel agreed to suspend planned annexation in parts of the West Bank;

Whereas on September 11, 2020, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa announced the establishment of full diplomatic relations between Israel and the Kingdom of Bahrain;

Whereas support for peace between Israel and its neighbors has long-standing bipartisan support in Congress and among the American people;

Whereas the UAE is the first Gulf Arab state to announce formal relations with Israel, followed by Bahrain;

Whereas the normalization agreements are intended to have strategic benefit for participating countries and can be mutually beneficial for important sectors such as investment, finance, health, civil space, civil aviation, foreign policy and diplomatic affairs, and tourism and culture;

Whereas following the agreement, the UAE formally abolished its boycott law, allowing UAE companies and individuals to trade directly with Israel;

Whereas these agreements could pave the way for future peace or normalization agreements between Israel and other Arab and Muslim countries;

Whereas the parties pledged to continue their efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive, and enduring resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict;

Whereas the agreements build upon the decades-long leadership of the United States in helping Israel broker peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan and promoting peace talks between Israel and Syria, Lebanon, and the Palestinians;

Whereas the United States played a pivotal role in brokering both agreements, which follow years of diplomacy between the United States, Israel, the United Arab Emir-

ates, Bahrain and other partners, encouraging cooperation between Israel and Gulf countries;

Whereas in 2015, Israel opened a diplomatic-level mission to the International Renewable Energy Agency in Abu Dhabi, UAE;

Whereas in 2018, after an Israeli athlete won first place in an international judo tournament in Abu Dhabi, the Israeli national anthem publicly played for the first time in the UAE;

Whereas in 2019, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, proclaimed the year 2019 to be “The Year of Tolerance” in the UAE, and during 2019, the UAE announced the construction of the Abrahamic Family House in Abu Dhabi, which will house a mosque, a church, and a synagogue and the appointment of the first chief rabbi of the UAE;

Whereas the UAE is set to host the World Expo in 2021, and in 2019 event organizers in Dubai invited Israel to participate;

Whereas in 2009, Bahrain’s crown prince Sheikh Salman bin Hamad al-Khalifa urged Arab countries to “move toward real peace now by consulting and educating our people and by reaching out to the Israeli public to highlight the benefits of a genuine peace.”;

Whereas when former president Shimon Peres died in 2016, Bahrain was the only Gulf country to publicly mourn his death;

Whereas in 2018, then Foreign Minister of Bahrain Khaled bin Ahmed al Khalifa tweeted in Arabic that Israel “has the right to defend itself” and said, “we do believe that

Israel is a country to stay, and we want a better relation with it, and we want peace with it.”;

Whereas in order to ensure the sustainability of state-to-state normalization, the agreements should be followed by greater people-to-people normalization; and

Whereas in 2008, Congress enacted legislation (Public Law 110–429) amending the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) to require that any certification to Congress relating to a proposed United States arms sale “to any country in the Middle East other than Israel” must include a “determination that the sale or export of such would not adversely affect Israel’s qualitative military edge over military threats to Israel”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the August 13, 2020, announce-
3 ment of the establishment of full diplomatic relations
4 between the State of Israel and the United Arab
5 Emirates and suspension of Israeli actions to apply
6 sovereignty in parts of the West Bank;

7 (2) supports the September 11, 2020, an-
8 nouncement of the establish of full diplomatic rela-
9 tions between the State of Israel and the Kingdom
10 of Bahrain;

11 (3) calls on the governments of the State of
12 Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and the Kingdom
13 of Bahrain to encourage greater people-to-people

1 normalization in order to facilitate sustainability of
2 the 2020 state-to-state normalization agreements;

3 (4) calls on other Arab and Muslim countries to
4 establish full relations with Israel with the vision of
5 realizing full peace between Israel and all of its
6 neighbors;

7 (5) reaffirms its strong support for the United
8 States requirement that a proposed sale or export of
9 defense article or defense services must be deter-
10 mined not to adversely affect Israel's ability to
11 counter and defeat any credible conventional military
12 threat from any individual state or possible coalition
13 of states or from non-state actors, while sustaining
14 minimal damages and casualties, through the use of
15 superior military means possessed in sufficient quan-
16 tity, including weapons, command, control, commu-
17 nication, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnais-
18 sance capabilities that in their technical characteris-
19 tics are superior in capability to those of such other
20 individual or possible coalition states or non-state
21 actors, consistent with section 36(h) of the Arms
22 Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(h)); and

23 (6) reaffirms its strong support for a negotiated
24 solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict resulting
25 in two states—a democratic Jewish State of Israel,

1 and a viable, democratic Palestinian state—living
2 side-by-side in peace, security, and mutual recogni-
3 tion.

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