

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 65**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Portantino and Halderman**

June 2, 2011

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 65—Relative to foreign relations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 65, as introduced, Portantino. Foreign relations: Israel.

This measure would urge all parties to the conflict in Israel to negotiate a peace treaty that recognizes Israel's right to exist within safe and secure borders. This measure would also urge local governments in California to establish beneficial relationships with Israel and those who support it.

Fiscal committee: no.

1     WHEREAS, California's Jewish community has been active  
2 socially, economically, and politically in the state's formation  
3 since the gold rush, and that involvement has had a positive impact  
4 on the state's multicultural and economic development; and  
5     WHEREAS, California is home to an estimated 2,000,000 Jews,  
6 making it the second largest concentration of Jews in the United  
7 States; and  
8     WHEREAS, For years, California and Israel have established  
9 business partnerships and trade relations with each other, and those  
10 partnerships have helped enhance the agricultural, educational,  
11 energy, entertainment, health, medical, scientific, and water policies  
12 in California, Israel, and the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, Israel is not only the ancestral home of the Jewish  
2 people, and the world's only Jewish nation, but is also inhabited  
3 by people from all corners of the world, and those people practice  
4 a variety of religions, including B'hai, Christianity, Druze, and  
5 Islam; and

6 WHEREAS, Israel has openly and honestly negotiated with its  
7 neighbors for peace, and during those negotiations, has traded land  
8 in an attempt to achieve economic prosperity and peace; and

9 WHEREAS, Israel is recognized around the world as the  
10 strongest democratically elected government in the Middle East,  
11 and the nation's democracy and relationship as an ally to the United  
12 States adds to the security and strength of California; and

13 WHEREAS, In an effort to foster community understanding,  
14 peace, tolerance, communications, and brotherhood, it is important  
15 to understand the contributions that people of all cultures and  
16 religions living in California have given California; and

17 WHEREAS, California's Legislature regularly takes positions  
18 on world events and issues of importance to its citizens; now,  
19 therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
21 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes both Israel's  
22 right to exist as a nation, and to exist within safe and secure  
23 borders; and be it further

24 *Resolved,* That the Legislature believes that Israel's borders  
25 should be determined by the Government of Israel; and be it further

26 *Resolved,* That the Legislature urges Israel's neighbors to  
27 recognize Israel's right to exist and negotiate for peace openly,  
28 honestly, and with humanitarian concern for the people of the  
29 Middle East and the world; and be it further

30 *Resolved,* That the Legislature urges all parties to the conflict  
31 in Israel to negotiate a peace treaty that not only recognizes Israel's  
32 right to exist, but does so with safe and secure borders; and be it  
33 further

34 *Resolved,* That the Legislature urges all California cities and  
35 counties to establish beneficial relationships with Israel and its  
36 peaceful neighbors, and that one of the ways to do so is to create  
37 a sister city relationship with the Middle East's only democratically  
38 elected government and those who support it; and be it further

39 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
40 of this resolution to the President of the United States, to each

- 1 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the
- 2 United States, the United Nations, the Prime Minister of the State
- 3 of Israel, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

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