

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 13, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 25

Introduced by Senators Block, Allen, Hertzberg, Jackson, Leno, Stone, and Wolk

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Bloom, Levine, Linder,
Medina, Nazarian, and Thurmond)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Atkins,
Baker, Bigelow, Bonilla, Bonta, Brough, Brown, Burke, Calderon,
Campos, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly,
Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Eduardo Garcia,
Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hadley,
Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Kim, Lackey, Lopez, Low, Maienschein,
Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Melendez, Mullin, Obernolte, O'Donnell,
Olsen, Patterson, Perea, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez,
Salas, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wilk,
Williams, and Wood)

March 5, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 25—Relative to the memorandum
of understanding between Israel and California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 25, as amended, Block. Trade: Israel: memorandum of
understanding.

This measure would state the Legislature's support for the
memorandum of understanding for strategic partnerships for joint
innovation, exchanges, and cooperation between California and Israel.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The California Legislature recognizes the many
2 ties that inexorably bind the State of California to the nation of
3 Israel; and

4 WHEREAS, Two-way trade between Israel and California
5 totaled over \$4.2 billion in 2014—one of the largest two-way trade
6 relationships between Israel and a state of the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, California and Israel share close ties and are global
8 leaders in the alternative energy, environmental technology, and
9 other technology-based industry sectors; and

10 WHEREAS, California is home to the largest in-state innovation
11 network in the United States, which offers
12 technology-commercialization opportunities for Israel; and

13 WHEREAS, March 5, 2015, marks the one-year anniversary of
14 the historic meeting at which the Governor of California and the
15 Prime Minister of Israel signed a memorandum of understanding
16 (MOU) for strategic partnerships for joint innovation, exchanges,
17 and cooperation between California and Israel; and

18 WHEREAS, This action was the culmination of an effort started
19 in the California Legislature as Assembly Bill 1032 of the 2009–10
20 Regular Session, calling for the creation of the MOU geared toward
21 fostering the exchange of information and research. The MOU
22 will strengthen relationships with Israel and help California and
23 Israel grow in these areas; and

24 WHEREAS, The participants in this MOU have expanded the
25 current level of cooperation between Israel and California in areas
26 including, but not limited to, alternative energy, environmental
27 technology, health, food, trade, agriculture, and other
28 technology-based industry sectors, business innovation, research,
29 development, and academia; and

30 WHEREAS, Two additional agreements have been signed with
31 the assistance of the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic
32 Development (GO-Biz). The first agreement being an agreement
33 between GO-Biz and Israel to add an economic component to the
34 bilateral partnership and a second agreement between the California
35 Institute of Regenerative Medicine and Israel’s Ministry of
36 Economy to facilitate matching grants for stem cell research and
37 development; and

38 WHEREAS, A cybersecurity strategic plan was developed
39 between Israel and California to explore government to government
40 high level security discussions on responding to targeted attacks,

1 gaining access to California or Israel markets and workforce
2 development projects; and

3 WHEREAS, Israeli water experts met with California elected
4 officials, regional and local water managers, as well as water
5 management experts from the Central Valley; and

6 WHEREAS, The unfettered collaboration between Israeli and
7 California universities has and will benefit multiple disciplines
8 and enhances the academic experience of the faculty and students
9 from Israel and California; and

10 WHEREAS, The Rady School of Management at the University
11 of California, San Diego, and the David Nazarian College of
12 Business and Economics at California State University, Northridge,
13 continue to lead California's collaboration with Israeli universities;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The MOU will also establish a formal relationship
16 between the two parties to foster economic cooperation and
17 economic development, facilitate joint industrial research and
18 development, and enhance business relationships and educational
19 opportunities between all Israeli universities and all California
20 universities to foster job creation and incubate global solutions
21 from joint California-Israeli innovation initiatives; and

22 WHEREAS, Collaboration with Israel will foster peace and
23 democracy in the Middle East; and

24 WHEREAS, To achieve these aims, the MOU envisions
25 undertaking the following actions: convening bilateral, interagency
26 working groups with international expertise to coordinate
27 initiatives; facilitating collaborations between Israeli and California
28 entrepreneurs and researchers through the California innovation
29 hub network; supporting and encouraging further development of
30 interpersonal contacts and exchanges and promoting mutual
31 cooperation, understanding, and friendship by encouraging ad hoc
32 task forces, trade delegations, and professional exchanges between
33 Israel and California in key sectors; creating public-private
34 partnerships between Californian and Israeli entities in the areas
35 of economic development, social entrepreneurship, and academic
36 research; strengthening the sister city program; and facilitating
37 collaboration between universities in California and Israel to foster
38 research and development; now, therefore, be it

39 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
40 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby supports the

1 memorandum of understanding for establishing strategic
2 partnerships between California and Israel that support joint
3 innovation in clean technologies, water conservation, health,
4 biotechnology, cybersecurity, education, agricultural technology,
5 research, and other informational exchanges, and that also promote
6 mutual cooperation, understanding, and friendship by encouraging
7 trade delegations and collaboration on mutual projects and issues
8 of interest; and be it further
9 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
10 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O