

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 4, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 159

Introduced by Assembly Member Hertzberg

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aanestad, Ackerman, Alquist, Aroner, Ashburn, Baldwin, Baugh, Bock, Brewer, Briggs, Cardenas, Cedillo, Corbett, Correa, Cox, Cunneen, Davis, Dickerson, Ducheny, Dutra, Firebaugh, Gallegos, Havice, Honda, House, Jackson, Kaloogian, Keeley, Knox, Kuehl, Leach, Lempert, Leonard, Longville, Machado, Maddox, Maldonado, Margett, Mazzoni, McClintock, Migden, Nakano, Oller, Robert Pacheco, Rod Pacheco, Papan, Pescetti, Reyes, Romero, Scott, Shelley, Steinberg, Strickland, Strom-Martin, Thompson, Thomson, Torlakson, Villaraigosa, Vincent, Wayne, Wesson, Wiggins, Wildman, Wright, and Zettel)

April 27, 2000

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 159—Relative to the independence of Israel.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 159, as amended, Hertzberg. Israel's independence.

This measure would congratulate Israel on 52 years of statehood.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The date of 5 Iyar of the year 5760 in the
2 Jewish calendar, or May 10, 2000, in the western calendar,

1 marks the 52nd anniversary of the independence of the
2 State of Israel and is a time for both celebration and
3 retrospection; and

4 WHEREAS, The past half century has been a vitally
5 important part of the almost 4,000 years of Jewish history
6 because the State of Israel has been reborn, and has been
7 able to welcome Jews from every corner of the globe to
8 build a modern democracy, one of the most
9 technologically advanced nations in the world; and

10 WHEREAS, Israel's population has grown nearly
11 tenfold since its founding in 1948, from 600,000 to some
12 6,000,000 today, including some 1,000,000 Arabs who enjoy
13 equal rights in the political, social, and economic life of
14 the country; and

15 WHEREAS, Israel is committed to continually
16 welcoming immigrants from all over the world, including
17 immigrants from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia,
18 Europe, and the Americas, totalling over 800,000
19 immigrants in the 1990's alone, a higher rate than any
20 other country; and

21 WHEREAS, Science and technology represent a
22 significant portion of Israel's economy with over 1,000
23 high technology startup companies, a work force that has
24 more scientists and engineers per capita than any other
25 country, one of the world's highest rates of investment in
26 research and development, and high technology exports
27 that comprise 40 percent of Israel's total industrial
28 exports; and

29 WHEREAS, Since Israel's rebirth 52 years ago, it has
30 been one of the United States' closest allies, and has been
31 a bedrock of stability, democracy, and modernity in the
32 Middle East, and the two countries share basic values,
33 including the commitment to pluralism and cultural
34 diversity; and

35 WHEREAS, Israel has demonstrated its total
36 commitment to the peace process, and the United States
37 looks forward to only strengthening its relationship to the
38 Jewish state within the context of a Middle East graced
39 with peace and prosperity; and



1 WHEREAS, California and Israel have developed
2 extensive and mutually beneficial trade and commercial
3 relations, and Israel has been a vital economic partner
4 with California, with especially good cooperation in the
5 high technology and agricultural sectors; and

6 WHEREAS, The rebirth of the State of Israel marked
7 the realization of the Jewish people's 2,000-year-old
8 yearning to return to their home as a free people, and
9 their dream envisions Israel standing side by side in
10 friendship and peace with all of its neighbors; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the*
13 *Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature
14 congratulates Israel on 52 years of statehood; and be it
15 further

16 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
17 transmit copies of this resolution to the Governor and to
18 the author for appropriate distribution.

