

R009-0809

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

- 10 **WHEREAS:** Since 1949, Jerusalem has been capital of the State of Israel; and,
- 20 **WHEREAS:** It is general practice to locate a country's embassy in that nation's capital; and,
- 30 **WHEREAS:** Of the 184 countries nations with which America has diplomatic relations, Israel is the
40 only one where the United States does not have its embassy located in its capital; and,
- 50 **WHEREAS:** The Jerusalem Embassy Act passed both the House and Senate with wide margins in
60 1995; and,
- 70 **WHEREAS:** The Jerusalem Embassy Act called for a American Embassy in Israel to be established in
80 Jerusalem; and,
- 90 **WHEREAS:** The 2003 Foreign Relations Authorization Act reaffirmed Congress' support for moving
100 the American Embassy to Jerusalem; and,
- 110 **WHEREAS:** Both Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush have refused to act in accordance with
120 these bills; and,
- 130 **WHEREAS:** Congress has Constitutional authority to force the Executive branch to move the embassy
140 by withholding funds for any American embassy in Israel not located in Jerusalem.
- 150 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the United States
160 Congress to pass legislation prohibiting the expenditure of funds on any United States
170 embassy outside of Jerusalem.
- 180 **MANDATES:** Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives
190 Steny Hoyer, House Majority Leader
200 John Boehner, House Minority Leader
210 Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader
220 Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader

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