

June 2, 2017

Senate Committee Passes Bipartisan Resolution on 50th Anniversary of Jerusalem Reunification

On May 25, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee passed by voice vote a bipartisan resolution (S. Res. 176) commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War and Jerusalem's reunification. Introduced by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Democratic Leader Charles Schumer (D-NY), the bipartisan measure recognizes "there has been a continuous Jewish presence in Jerusalem for 3 millennia" and hails Jerusalem as a "united city in which the rights of all faiths have been respected and protected" since 1967. From 1948 to June 1967, Israeli citizens from all religious backgrounds and Jewish people from all nationalities were declined access to Jerusalem's Old City and holy sites. Immediately after reunifying Jerusalem, Israel abolished restrictions on the free exercise of religion for all people. The resolution "reaffirms its support for Israel's commitment to religious freedom and administration of holy sites in Jerusalem" and calls for "strengthening the mutually beneficial American-Israeli relationship." Additionally, the legislation reaffirms the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, which deems Jerusalem "the capital of the State of Israel" in the text of the law. The legislation now awaits action in the full Senate.

Our Synagogue partners with AIPAC, America's pro-Israel lobby, in educating our community on issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship. We encourage you to learn more by contacting AIPAC at synagogue@aipac.org or by visiting www.aipac.org.