

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AIPAC Applauds Congressional Passage of Critical Homeland Security Legislation

AIPAC released the following statement regarding the passage of the Promoting Anti-Terrorism Cooperation through Technology and Science (PACTS) Act.

AIPAC applauds the Congress for its passage of the Promoting Anti-Terrorism Cooperation through Technology and Science Act (PACTS) as part of the 9-11 legislation, which both the House and Senate approved late last week. We congratulate Senators Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) and Susan Collins (R-ME) and Congressmen Bennie Thompson (D-MS) and Peter King (R-NY) on their leadership.

The PACTS Act creates an Office of International Cooperative Programs within the Science and Technology Directorate of DHS. This office will allow the U.S. to work with our closest allies in the war on terror to develop the tools we all need to make the world safer.

The bill specifically names Israel as one of our nation's strongest allies in the war on terror. Israel has long battled to secure its homeland and has developed technologies and expertise which we can benefit from as we work to secure ours. This important legislation will strengthen the ties between the U.S. and Israel and make the citizens of both countries safer.

As Congress continues to seek innovative ways of protecting citizens and combating terrorists, it is increasingly looking to its friends overseas. The passage of this bill strengthens our relationship with Israel and other key allies in the global war on terror and constitutes a critical step toward increasing America's ability to respond effectively to terrorist threats and better protect American lives.

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Consistently ranked as the most influential foreign policy lobbying organization on Capitol Hill, AIPAC is an American membership organization that seeks to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Israel. For more than 50 years, AIPAC has been working with Congress to build a strong, vibrant relationship between the U.S. and Israel. With more than 100,000 members across the United States, AIPAC works throughout the country to improve and strengthen that relationship by supporting U.S.-Israel military, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation.