

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 5th, 2008

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AIPAC STATEMENT ON THE 2008 ELECTION RESULTS

Washington, D.C. — AIPAC congratulates President-elect Barack Obama on being elected the 44th President of the United States of America. We look forward to working with an Obama administration as we continue to build on the solid foundation of support for a strong and abiding U.S.-Israel relationship.

President-elect Obama has many good friends in the pro-Israel community, both in Illinois and across the country, and has unequivocally demonstrated his commitment to the security of the United States and Israel.

We also look forward to working with members of the 111th Congress and continuing to work with the leadership of both parties in the Senate and House of Representatives. Most of Israel's strongest friends and supporters in both parties were re-elected Tuesday to seats in both the House and Senate. The 111th Congress will undoubtedly be the most pro-Israel ever.

In particular, we want to extend our congratulations to Senate Democratic Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) on their reelections.

While some races still hang in the balance, there were at least seven new members of the U.S. Senate and at least 52 new members of the House of Representatives elected Tuesday. AIPAC has already met with every one of the successful candidates, and we look forward to working with them on the issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship.

AIPAC extends its best wishes to those members who have served with great distinction during their careers in Congress, but did not win re-election – they have been true champions of the special relationship between the United States and Israel.

We also welcome the election of three new Jewish members of Congress; John Adler (D-NJ), Alan Grayson (D-FL), and Jared Polis (D-CO), whose election brings the total number of Jewish members in both houses of Congress to 46.

According to exit polls, the Jewish vote was split between President-elect Obama and Senator McCain by a margin of 78% to 22%. African-American and Jewish voters supported Barack Obama in greater numbers than any other constituent group.

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