

AIPAC AND CONGRESS

AIPAC works with Congress to help advance the U.S.-Israel relationship by:

Keeping America and Israel Strong and Secure

In 2012, Congress passed the U.S.-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act. The United States benefits greatly through enhanced cooperation with Israel, and this bipartisan legislation recommends new avenues for the U.S.-Israel relationship to grow and strengthen in the fields of missile defense, homeland security, energy, intelligence and cyber-security.

Increasing the Pressure on Iran to Stop its Illicit Nuclear Program

The threat posed by a nuclear Iran endangers American citizens and our allies around the world, including Israel. During the 112th Congress, both chambers passed bills that make it U.S. policy to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, escalate the level of sanctions against the regime's human rights violators and sharply tighten the enforcement of existing sanctions law.

Educating Members of Congress About Israel

Congressional turnover is at an all-time high and pro-Israel Americans must redouble their efforts to educate our leaders that a strong and secure Israel strengthens the United States. AIEF—the charitable organization affiliated with AIPAC—sponsors educational seminars to Israel to teach members of Congress about the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship through first hand experiences in Israel, briefings by experts on Middle East affairs and meetings with the Israeli political elite. In the past two terms of Congress, 94 freshman members of Congress have traveled to Israel on AIEF-sponsored seminars.

Ensuring Israel Has the Ability to Defend Itself

Israel is forced to spend more on defense as part of its GDP than any other industrialized nation. To ensure that our ally has the means to defend itself, Congress has approved more than \$3 billion in annual security assistance for the Jewish state. Moreover, as the rocket threat continues to mount, Congress and the president have allocated hundreds of millions of dollars for Israeli missile defense technology. The United States and Israel are working together to develop new systems to strengthen both country's defenses.

Pursuing Peace Between Israel and its Neighbors

President Obama, congressional leaders and AIPAC all agree that a lasting peace and two-state agreement between Israel and the Palestinians will only be achieved through direct talks. AIPAC works with our country's policymakers to ensure a process that promotes peace and ensures the security of our ally Israel. When the Palestinians sought to circumvent direct talks by seeking statehood through the United Nations, 89 senators and 357 House members cosponsored resolutions calling on the administration to oppose these efforts and urge the Palestinian Authority to return to the negotiating table.

AIPAC is the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. AIPAC advocates for a strong U.S.-Israel relationship by working with Congress and encouraging our membership to build lasting relationships with U.S. Representatives and Senators in both parties.

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