

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

Affirming the United States commitment to the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and noting that Israeli annexation of territory in the West Bank would undermine peace and Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Affirming the United States commitment to the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and noting that Israeli annexation of territory in the West Bank would undermine peace and Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state.

Whereas longstanding United States policy has recognized that a two-state solution to achieve peace between the Israelis and Palestinians would serve as the best hope for peace and security in the region;

Whereas roadmaps for peace outlined by President Bill Clinton, President George W. Bush, and President Barack Obama reflected the bipartisan United States policy pro-

moting a negotiated two-state solution that supports the self-determination of both Israelis and Palestinians;

Whereas successive United States administrations of different political parties identified settlement expansion as an impediment to peace;

Whereas Israel's status as a Jewish and democratic state has been indispensable to its national identity throughout its history;

Whereas Israel has built and maintained relationships with its Arab neighbors;

Whereas ongoing security coordination between Israelis and Palestinians promotes stability;

Whereas deep United States-Israel cooperation provides significant mutual benefit to the security and prosperity of both countries and strengthens the unbreakable bond between the people of each country; and

Whereas any resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict must guarantee Israel's security: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) the policy of the United States should be to
3 preserve conditions conducive to a negotiated two-
4 state solution;

5 (2) United States efforts to promote peace be-
6 tween the Israelis and Palestinians should explicitly
7 endorse a two-state solution as the goal of any proc-
8 ess to resolve the conflict's core issues;

9 (3) unilateral annexation of portions of the
10 West Bank would jeopardize prospects for a two-

1 state solution, harm Israel's relationship with its
2 Arab neighbors, threaten Israel's Jewish and demo-
3 cratic identity, and undermine Israel's security; and

4 (4) a two-state solution is the best hope to pre-
5 serve Israel's Jewish and democratic nature while
6 fulfilling the Palestinians' right to self-determina-
7 tion, creating a foundation for just and durable
8 peace and prosperity.