

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 48th Legislature (2002)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 41

By: Pruitt, Taylor,
Easley and Coffee

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution supporting the State of Israel in her campaign against terrorism; calling upon all Arab nations committed to and desirous of peace to take appropriate actions; urging the federal government to support the State of Israel; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma experienced firsthand the tragedy and destruction of domestic terrorism when the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was bombed, killing 168 people on April 19, 1995; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America was struck by suicide terrorists on September 11, 2001, in attacks that killed thousands of U.S. citizens, destroyed the World Trade Center in New York City, damaged the Pentagon, and purposefully incinerated four commercial aircraft by turning those planes into suicide missiles; and

WHEREAS, the government of the United States and the military of this country are currently involved in an international and domestic effort of historic proportions to curb terrorism against this country and assist our friends and allies who are engaged in similar efforts; and

WHEREAS, an attack against the civilian population by terrorists of one country is an attack on civilians in all countries and the increased use of suicide bombers is a new form of terrorism that threatens civilians everywhere; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma laments the tragic loss of life experienced by the Israeli and Palestinian people during the recent hostilities in the Mideast; and

WHEREAS, the closest ally of the United States in the Mideast, and the only democratic nation in that region, the State of Israel, has experienced a brutal spate of suicide terrorist attacks against civilians in the last year by groups sponsored or given safe harbor by the Palestinian Authority and its Chairman, Yasser Arafat, and substantially assisted by other nations in the region such as Iraq and Iran; and

WHEREAS, one of the most recent terrorist attacks horrified the world by targeting worshippers celebrating the Jewish holiday of Passover and constituted an assault on all people of faith who cherish religious observance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 48TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate on behalf of the citizens of Oklahoma, having confronted the evil of terrorism in our own community, stands behind those efforts of our President that support the government and people of Israel in this time of crisis in the Mideast.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate on behalf of the citizens of Oklahoma supports the State of Israel and her citizens in the campaign against terror and in the effort to root out the terrorist infrastructure currently protected by and encouraged by the Palestinian Authority and other nations in the region still at war with the State of Israel.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate on behalf of the citizens of Oklahoma recognizes that whether cave by cave in Afghanistan or house to house in an area inhabited by terrorists, a war against terrorism requires courage, conviction, and sustained effort over time.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate on behalf of the citizens of Oklahoma calls upon all Arab nations committed to and desirous of peace to take action by: abstaining from monetarily rewarding attacks on innocent citizens; encouraging accountability in the peace process by facilitating the establishment of democratic institutions of government in the Palestinian Authority to insure enforcement of peace if and when it is brokered; halting the use of state media and state education systems to foment religious hatred and anti-Semitism; and encouraging the Palestinian Authority to place in leadership people capable and willing to negotiate and consummate a permanent peace accord.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate on behalf of the citizens of Oklahoma urges our President and our Congress to support the State of Israel in its effort to live in peace and security, minimize to the greatest extent loss to innocents and to withstand pressure from those who would appease or accommodate terrorism in any form or at any place.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the President of the United States, Oklahoma's Congressional Delegation, the U.S. Chief Mideast Negotiator, and the Israeli Ambassador to the United States.

48-2-3250

THC

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