WHEREAS, on 14 May 1948, the people of Israel proclaimed the establishment of the sovereign and independent State of Israel, and the United States government established full diplomatic relations with Israel, and

WHEREAS, for nearly 70 years, the United States and Israel have maintained a special relationship based on mutually shared democratic values, common strategic interests, mutually beneficial trading alliances, strong bonds of friendship, as well as mutual trust and respect; and

WHEREAS, the State of Israel maintains a strong and well-trained military force, has extensive air and naval facilities and, therefore, is a vital ally and link in the Middle East defense chain; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that AMVETS supports and encourages a just and comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace, by promoting peaceful dialogue amongst the stakeholders in the region and avoid any actions which could lead to military conflict; and be it further

RESOLVED, that AMVETS urges Congress and the Administration to continue to support the State of Israel through the sale of state-of-the-art military equipment and technology to help them maintain an adequate defense of their borders and independence.

Committee Recommendations:

Armed Services and Military Liaison Committee: Adopt

Floor Action: ADOPTED