

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: SM 1170

SPONSOR: Senator Cowin

SUBJECT: Memorial to Congress expressing solidarity with Israel in its fight against terrorism

DATE: March 27, 2003 REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

|    | ANALYST        | STAFF DIRECTOR | REFERENCE | ACTION           |
|----|----------------|----------------|-----------|------------------|
| 1. | <u>Skelton</u> | <u>Kassack</u> | <u>RC</u> | <u>Favorable</u> |
| 2. | _____          | _____          | _____     | _____            |
| 3. | _____          | _____          | _____     | _____            |
| 4. | _____          | _____          | _____     | _____            |
| 5. | _____          | _____          | _____     | _____            |
| 6. | _____          | _____          | _____     | _____            |

## I. Summary:

This Memorial to the United States Congress commends the President of the United States for efforts to engage nations throughout the mid-east in condemnation of terrorism and in preventing the spread of terrorist activities; announces the Florida Legislature's support for Israel in providing security for its citizens against terrorism; condemns various actions of the Palestinian Authority and members of its governing leadership; urges all Arab nations to declare opposition to all forms of terrorism; urges all parties in the region to work together towards peace and supports additional United States assistance to help Israel defend itself.

The Memorial further resolves that the Florida Legislature will work to promote tourism, economic trade and cultural exchange with the State of Israel now and in the future.

## II. Present Situation:

The United States of America and the State of Florida have suffered from a negative economic atmosphere since terrorists attacked our nation and our state in September and October of 2001. The "airplane bombings" of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the thwarted attempt on the unknown target in Washington, D.C. which resulted in the plane crash in Pennsylvania and the anthrax attacks on the AMI Building in Boca Raton, Florida, Washington, D.C. and New York City have had a negative effect on the business climate in our country and state. Tourism has been affected by the current world situation, service industries and small businesses have been directly hurt by job losses caused by a lack of trade, and large corporations are suffering a malaise of slow business and an uncertain world economy, which is having a direct effect on American markets.

The United States and Israel have maintained friendly relations since Israel's inception in 1948. America has supported Israel's right to defend its borders and has established strong economic ties to the country. Israel is a strong trading partner with the United States and, historically, there has been a large avenue of tourism between the two countries.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

This Memorial to Congress states the Florida Legislature's support for the United States Government's foreign policy as related to Israel and its support for the actions of President Bush.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

### **V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

#### **A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

#### **B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

#### **C. Government Sector Impact:**

None.

### **VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

### **VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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