

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 464

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives relating to the recognition of the Magen David Adom (Red Shield of David) as a symbol of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 1996

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives relating to the recognition of the Magen David Adom (Red Shield of David) as a symbol of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Whereas it is the mission of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to prevent and alleviate human suffering, without discrimination, wherever it may be found;

Whereas the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is a worldwide institution in which all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities;

Whereas the State of Israel has ratified the Geneva Conventions which govern the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;

Whereas the Magen David Adom is the national humanitarian society in the State of Israel;

Whereas the Magen David Adom Society follows all the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;

Whereas the Magen David Adom Society is excluded from full membership in the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement solely because the Magen David Adom is not an official protective symbol recognized by the Geneva Conventions governing the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement or the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;

Whereas the State of Israel has unsuccessfully tried in the past to amend the Geneva Conventions to allow for the emblematic recognition of the Magen David Adom; and

Whereas recognition of the Magen David Adom as an official symbol of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement would help fortify the spirit of goodwill in the Middle East Peace Process: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the President should at the earliest possible
4 date work with other signatory countries to the Ge-
5 neva Conventions for the purpose of organizing a
6 full diplomatic conference on the Geneva Humanitarian

1 tarian Law Instruments to include recognition of the
2 Magen David Adom as an official symbol for use by
3 appropriate organizations of the International Red
4 Cross and Red Crescent Movement; and

5 (2) the President should strongly encourage the
6 International Red Cross and Red Crescent Move-
7 ment to discuss this issue at the meeting of the
8 Council of the Delegates of the International Red
9 Cross and Red Crescent Movement to be held in
10 1997 and to amend Article 4 of the Statutes of the
11 International Red Cross and Red Crescent Move-
12 ment to include recognition of the Magen David
13 Adom as an official emblem of the International Red
14 Cross and Red Crescent Movement at the Inter-
15 national Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent
16 Movement to be held in 1999.

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