

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 61

Commending the people of Israel for conducting free and fair elections, reaffirming the friendship between the Governments and peoples of the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

Mr. CANTOR (for himself, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. DELAY, Mr. HOYER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. HYDE, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. ACKERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

Committee on International Relations discharged; considered under suspension of the rules and agreed to

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## **RESOLUTION**

Commending the people of Israel for conducting free and fair elections, reaffirming the friendship between the Governments and peoples of the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

Whereas the United States and Israel are close allies whose people share a deep and abiding friendship based on a shared commitment to democratic values;

Whereas since its establishment in 1948, Israel has fulfilled the dreams of its founders who envisioned a vigorous, open, and stable democracy;

Whereas an essential feature of Israeli democracy is its system of competitive, free, and open elections;

Whereas on January 28, 2003, the people of Israel elected Israel's 16th Knesset, or Parliament, which in turn will choose the Prime Minister of Israel; and

Whereas the election on January 28, 2003, is the most recent example of the commitment of Israel to the democratic ideals of freedom and pluralism, ideals that Israel shares with the United States

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) commends the people of Israel for reaffirm-  
3       ing their dedication to democratic ideals as ex-  
4       pressed in the election on January 28, 2003;

5               (2) expresses both its respect for the freely ex-  
6       pressed will of the people of Israel, and its intention  
7       to engage in constructive relations with the new  
8       Government of Israel, and urges the international  
9       community to do so as well;

10              (3) reaffirms the close bonds of friendship that  
11       have bound the people of the United States and the  
12       people of Israel together through turbulent times for  
13       more than half a century;

14              (4) urges the Palestinian leadership to abide by  
15       its commitments made to the United States and to  
16       Israel and urges the Palestinian people to act on  
17       President Bush's call of June 24, 2002, to dismantle  
18       the terrorist infrastructure, end incitement to vio-

1 lence in official media, elect new leaders not com-  
2 promised by terror, and embrace democracy; and

3 (5) restates the commitment of the United  
4 States to a secure peace for Israel.

