



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

***FLORIDA'S CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S 70<sup>TH</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY***

**WHEREAS**, as evidence of the United States' close relationship with Israel, President Harry S. Truman recognized Israel's independence on May 14, 1948, the same day the State of Israel was established; and the State of Florida has demonstrated unwavering commitment and support for Israel, including leading two trade missions to Israel in December 2011 and December 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013, the Florida-Israel Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between Space Florida and Israel was established to support research, development, and aerospace technology projects; and Florida maintains an Enterprise Florida international economic development office in Tel Aviv to enhance trade and investment relations with Israel; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, Florida adopted legislation to prohibit the State Board of Administration from investing in companies that boycott Israel; and on March 21, 2018, Florida enacted law to prohibit state agencies and local government entities from contracting with companies that boycott Israel; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, Florida adopted legislation to establish the Florida Holocaust Memorial to recognize and commemorate the millions of people, including six million Jews, murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators before and during World War II in Europe, and create a memorial at the Florida Capitol Complex where all Floridians can honor survivors and solemnly remember victims of the Holocaust; and

**WHEREAS**, in December 2017, while leading a Florida trade mission to Israel, Florida announced its support of President Donald J. Trump's announcement to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem; and

**WHEREAS**, to ensure students are safe, the 2018-2019 Securing Florida's Future Budget invests \$2 million in security funding for Jewish Day Schools to help provide security and counter-terrorism upgrades such as video cameras, fences, bullet-proof glass, alarm systems and other safety equipment, in addition to the more than \$650,000 in 2017-2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida's economic development and trading partnership with Israel exceeds \$286 million a year;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 14, 2018, as ***FLORIDA'S CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S 70<sup>TH</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY***.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 18th day of April, in the year two thousand eighteen.

A blue ink signature of Rick Scott, written in a cursive style.

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Governor