## DECLARATION OF PURPOSE AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE AND STATE OF ISRAEL FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ISRAEL ALLIES CAUCUS FOUNDATION

## PRESENTED TO THE KNESSET CHRISTIAN ALLIES CAUCUS FEBRUARY 19, 2008

## RATIFIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ISRAEL ALLIES CAUCUS CHAIRMEN MAY 22, 2008

A CALL FOR THE UNITY OF ALL PEOPLES OF GOODWILL TO DECLARE THAT THOSE WHO STAND TOGETHER FOR FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND JUSTICE MUST STAND WITH ISRAEL IN ITS HOUR OF GREATEST TRIAL.

Whereas, members of the Jewish, Christian, and other faiths recognize the historic and spiritual significance of the Land of Israel and the City of Jerusalem to the Jewish People;

Whereas, men and women of conscience condemn the persecution and suffering of the Jewish people through the ages and resolve that a holocaust against the Jewish People must never be allowed to happen again;

Whereas, Israel has served as a haven for Jews seeking refuge from persecution around the world and protects the rights of minorities within its borders;

Whereas, over 22,000 Israeli soldiers have sacrificed their lives since independence in 1948;

Whereas, the State of Israel stands today as the only true pluralistic democracy in the Middle East, and though at war wit Palestinian terrorists and their surrogates, Israel nevertheless has reached out to innocent Palestinian civilians with widespread offers of medical and humanitarian assistance, education, training and jobs;

Whereas, the International Israel Allies Caucus Foundation was established to give clear expression to the moral and ethical bonds that unite Jews, Christians, and people of faith worldwide;

Whereas, the Ten Commandments and the Hebrew Bible, or Torah, have served for three thousand years as a cornerstone of Western civilization and serve today as the moral foundation for societies around the world;

Be it resolved and affirmed by unanimous acclamation of the International Israel Allies Caucus Foundation (IIACF) and its affiliated organizations,

That it is the sense of the members that -

- (1) The People of Israel have an inalienable right to live in peace and security in their historic homeland.
- (2) As a sovereign state recognized by the United Nations, Israel has the right to govern its immigration and naturalization policies and to encourage and receive Jewish people from around the globe who choose to return.
- (3) Jerusalem is, and should be, the undivided capital of Israel and the Jewish People, and in recognition of this all of the nations of the world should locate their embassies in Jerusalem.
- While we all yearn for peace, we recognize that pressure on Israel from the international community to negotiate and make concessions with those sworn to its destruction has not led to peace; we regard such attempts as futile.
- (5) The Iranian regime with its developing arsenal of weapons of mass destruction and its stated goal of destroying Israel constitutes a clear and present danger to the existence of the State of Israel that must be opposed.
- (6) Israel's protective military actions are lawful under international law and are consistent with Article 51 of the U.N. Charter, which reserves unto each nation the right to engage in acts of self-defense.
- (7) We support the Government of Israel as acting within its rights and obligations to its citizens when it stands resolutely in defense of its sovereign territory and acts preemptively if necessary, to ensure the protection of its citizens and the survival of its national existence.
- (8) Social justice demands that the compensation claims of the Jewish refugees from Arab lands be recognized on equal terms with those of Arab refugees from 1948.