

REFERENCE TITLE: **legitimacy; Judea and Samaria; recognition**

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Introduced by

Representatives Livingston: Biasiucci, Blackman, Bliss, Carbone, Carter N, Carter P, Chaplik, Diaz, Gillette, Gress, Griffin, Heap, Hendrix, Keshel, Kolodin, Lopez, Marshall, Martinez, Montenegro, Nguyen, Olson, Peña, Pingerelli, Powell, Rivero, Taylor, Way, Weninger, Willoughby, Wilmeth; Senators Angius, Carroll, Dunn, Farnsworth, Finchem, Gowan, Hoffman, Kavanagh, Leach, Mesnard, Payne, Petersen, Rogers, Shamp, Werner

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE LEGITIMACY OF JUDEA AND SAMARIA.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, the regions known as Judea and Samaria are the ancestral
2 homeland of the Jewish people, comprising the historical, spiritual and
3 geographic core of the Land of Israel; and

4 Whereas, Judea and Samaria are repeatedly and explicitly referenced
5 in the Hebrew Bible as the setting for key events that form the foundation
6 of the Jewish religion and national identity of the State of Israel; and

7 Whereas, in the Hebrew Bible, Abraham, the patriarch of the Jewish
8 people, first entered the Land of Israel at Shechem, located in Samaria,
9 where God promised the land to his descendants; and

10 Whereas, Abraham subsequently purchased the Cave of Machpelah in
11 Hebron, in Judea, as a burial place for his wife Sarah, thereby making the
12 first recorded land acquisition by a Jewish person in the Land of Israel;
13 and

14 Whereas, Jacob, Abraham's grandson, had his prophetic dream of a
15 ladder reaching heaven while in Bethel, in Samaria, and later purchased
16 land near Shechem and built an altar to God there; and

17 Whereas, Joseph, Jacob's son, was buried in Shechem in fulfillment
18 of the promise made to him by his family; and

19 Whereas, the covenant ceremony between the children of Israel and
20 God was performed on Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal, both of which are
21 located in Samaria; and

22 Whereas, the Tabernacle, which was the center of Israelite worship
23 before the construction of the First Temple in Jerusalem, stood in Shiloh,
24 in Samaria, for several centuries; and

25 Whereas, King David began his reign over the tribes of Israel in
26 Hebron, in Judea, where he ruled for seven years before establishing his
27 kingdom in Jerusalem; and

28 Whereas, Jerusalem, which sits on the border of the tribal
29 territories of Judah and Benjamin, was purchased by King David from
30 Araunah the Jebusite and became the eternal capital of the Jewish people;
31 and

32 Whereas, the return of the Jewish people to Judea and Samaria in
33 modern times constitutes the fulfillment of numerous biblical prophecies,
34 including Jeremiah 31:5, Ezekiel 36:8 and Amos 9:14; and

35 Whereas, the names Judea and Samaria are historically, biblically
36 and legally accurate terms for the region; and

37 Whereas, Samaria derives from the city established by King Omri, and
38 Judea refers to the territory of the tribe of Judah, which included
39 Jerusalem, Hebron and surrounding regions; and

40 Whereas, the areas of Judea and Samaria were illegally conquered by
41 Jordan in Israel's Independence War in 1948 and the term "West Bank" was
42 imposed by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan during its illegal occupation
43 of the region between 1948 and 1967; and

1 Whereas the term "West Bank" is a political construct meant to
2 reframe the land as the "West Bank of the Jordan River" and sever it from
3 its historical Jewish and biblical roots; and

4 Whereas, the term "West Bank" is a deliberate attempt to erase the
5 Jewish identity of Judea and Samaria and to obscure the deep historical,
6 religious and legal connections of the Jewish people to the land; and

7 Whereas, during the Six Day War of June 1967, the State of Israel
8 liberated Judea and Samaria from Jordanian control, restoring Jewish
9 access to their ancestral homeland and holy sites after 19 years of
10 exclusion and desecration under Jordanian occupation; and

11 Whereas, the strategic importance of Judea and Samaria to the State
12 of Israel is irrefutable, and without the two regions, the width of Israel
13 is only 9 miles at its narrowest point, rendering the state militarily
14 indefensible; and

15 Whereas, the highlands of Judea and Samaria overlook Israel's
16 coastal plain and central corridor, placing Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and
17 Ben-Gurion International Airport within range of hostile forces outside of
18 Israeli control; and

19 Whereas, Israel's control of Judea and Samaria is essential to its
20 defense and deterrence capabilities, and hostile control of the area would
21 place Israel's major cities and transportation arteries at risk; and

22 Whereas, the ideological and cultural conflicts over Judea and
23 Samaria represent a broader civilizational struggle between
24 Judeo-Christian values and Islamic ideologies that seek to undermine
25 Western democratic principles and religious freedom; and

26 Whereas, supporting Israeli sovereignty in Judea and Samaria is an
27 affirmation of the moral and historical legitimacy of the Jewish people's
28 connection to the land, the authenticity and enduring relevance of the
29 Bible and the values that underpin both Western civilization and American
30 constitutional democracy; and

31 Whereas, numerous American cities and towns bear the names of
32 biblical locations in Judea and Samaria, illustrating the deep cultural
33 and spiritual bond between the United States and the State of Israel; and

34 Whereas, under the San Remo Resolution of 1920, the Allied Powers
35 recognized the right of the Jewish people to reconstitute their national
36 home in their ancestral land, including Judea and Samaria; and

37 Whereas, this decision was incorporated into the Mandate for
38 Palestine, which was approved by the League of Nations and remains binding
39 under Article 80 of the United Nations Charter; and

40 Whereas, no international agreement or resolution has lawfully
41 revoked or superseded these foundational legal rights, making Israel's
42 sovereignty over Judea and Samaria consistent with international law; and

1 Whereas, the security and sovereignty of the State of Israel in
2 Judea and Samaria serve the strategic interests of the United States by
3 preventing the emergence of another terrorist-controlled state in the
4 heart of the Middle East, advancing long-term stability in the Middle East
5 and ensuring that America stands in defense of truth and moral clarity and
6 affirming the Judeo-Christian heritage on which the United States was
7 founded.

8 Therefore

9 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,
10 the Senate concurring:

11 That the Members of the Legislature:

12 1. Recognize the historical, biblical and legal legitimacy of the
13 regions of Judea and Samaria and formally reject the term "West Bank" as a
14 modern political construct.

15 2. Support the use of the terms "Judea" and "Samaria" in all
16 official state communications, documents and references regarding those
17 regions.