



# NEWS RELEASE

**Arizona House of Representatives**  
**Representative David Livingston (R-28)**  
1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

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**Monday, February 23, 2026**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Arizona House Passes Resolutions Affirming Israel's Sovereignty in Judea and Samaria

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – The Arizona House of Representatives today approved [House Resolution 2002](#) and [House Concurrent Resolution 2047](#), legislation sponsored by State Representative David Livingston affirming Israel's sovereignty over Judea and Samaria and directing Arizona to use historically accurate terminology in official state communications.

The resolutions recognize the historical, biblical, and legal legitimacy of Judea and Samaria and formally reject the term "West Bank," which was imposed during Jordan's illegal occupation of the territory from 1948 to 1967. The measures advanced with bipartisan support following approval by the House Appropriations Committee last week.

**"Today, the Arizona House chose accuracy over politics,"** Representative Livingston said. **"Judea and Samaria are not invented terms and they are not negotiable facts. They are central to Jewish history, faith, and national identity, and Arizona will not participate in language meant to deny that truth."**

The resolutions also recognize the importance of Judea and Samaria to Israel's security and to United States interests in preventing terrorist-controlled territory from emerging in the region. Representative Livingston thanked members of the House for supporting the resolutions and for standing firmly against efforts to rewrite the historical and legal record.

**"This vote shows that respect for history still matters,"** Representative Livingston said. **"Arizona stands with Israel, speaks plainly about the facts, and refuses to bend to political pressure."**

A statement from Israeli Consul General Israel Bachar applauding the House's action is attached.

HR 2002 was adopted upon passage by the House. HCR 2047 now goes to the Arizona Senate for adoption.

*David Livingston is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 28 in Peoria. He also serves as Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. Follow him on X at @Livingston4AZ.*

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**Statement on the Arizona House of Representatives' adoption of HCR2047, a historic resolution officially replacing the political term "West Bank" with the indigenous name "Judea and Samaria"**

The Arizona House of Representatives adopted resolution HCR2047, officially replacing the term "West Bank" with the indigenous name "Judea and Samaria." As HCR2047 attests, the historical, biblical and legal legitimacy of the regions of Judea and Samaria in Israel are unquestioned and undebatable. Consul General Israel Bachar congratulates the Arizona House for replacing the politically-constructed term "West Bank" with the indigenous names "Judea and Samaria" and thanks the members of the State House of Representatives for recognizing their rightful names. In formally rejecting the term "West Bank," labeling it a modern political construct, and opting instead to use the indigenous terms "Judea and Samaria" in all official state communications, documents and references, the Arizona House of Representatives attests: the indigeneity of Judea and Samaria and their rightful place in the history of the Holy Land and modern-day Israel are eternal and undebatable.

The State of Arizona has set a gold standard in terms of state legislative initiatives that protect and enhance the US-Israel relationship on the State level. With HB2617 in 2016, the Legislature made clear that the Boycott, Divest and Sanction (BDS) movement had no home — or legality — in Arizona. Likewise, in adopting the IHRA definition of Antisemitism in 2022 through HB2675, the State showed leadership in equivocating Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism. Today's passage of HCR2047 follows in this legacy.

Consul General Bachar extends his gratitude to Chairman David Livingston, who, upon visiting Judea and Samaria in late 2025, understood the strategic importance of this initiative to Arizona-Israel and US-Israel relations. The Consul General also thanks House Speaker Steve Montenegro and International Trade Committee Chairman Tony Rivero for their commitment to this resolution. He likewise thanks all co-sponsors of today's resolution for their moral clarity and staunch solidarity with the State and people of Israel.

Sincerely,

Israel Bachar  
Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Southwest