



OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN RON KLEIN
FLORIDA'S 22ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CONTACT: 202-225-3026

April 22, 2008

Klein Honors Israel's 60th Anniversary on House Floor

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Representative Ron Klein (FL-22) today spoke on the floor of the House of Representatives in strong support of bipartisan legislation recognizing the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel. The resolution (H.Con.Res. 322) was introduced by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Minority Leader John Boehner and is expected to pass the House today under suspension of the rules.

Klein is the Vice Chair of the House Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia. The complete text of his remarks on the House floor follows.

As Prepared for Delivery

April 22, 2008

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the State of Israel on its 60th birthday this year.

Since its inception in 1948, Israel has shared with the United States an unbreakable bond of democratic freedom and a hope for security and stability in the Middle East.

Sixty years later, in a region where fostering democracy and human rights is a top priority, Israel has continued to be a strategic partner.

The United States and Israel are natural allies who share democratic governments, belief in the rule of law and a commitment to protect the human rights of all people.

My home state of Florida has a particularly special relationship with Israel, and I have made bolstering Florida's economic ties with Israel one of my top priorities.

I worked with others to pass legislation that opened the State of Florida's trade office in Israel, and in my last visit to Israel, I visited our Sister City, Kiryat Bialik, in order to reinforce our bond.

On Israel's 60th anniversary, I join the American people in congratulating Israel on its myriad accomplishments. I hope that the next 60 years will bring peace, prosperity and security.

###