

Alabama-Israel Task Force

Remembering Our Past, Shaping Our Future

LEGACY OF HONOR • MORAL RESPONSIBILITY • GENERATIONAL COMMITMENT • VITAL LEADERSHIP

The Vision - Bridges and Brotherhood

Mission - The Alabama-Israel Task Force (AITF) seeks to provide a **bridge** and catalyst for **broader** cooperative efforts and help cultivate an even **stronger** and expanding state-to-state **relationship** between Alabama and Israel for the **mutual benefit** of their people.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alabama-Israel Task Force to Host Historic “Alabama Celebrates Israel” Statewide Gathering 7pm Tuesday March 25th, 2014 • Von Braun Center (VBC) • Huntsville, AL

Alabama has a **long history** of strong support for the state of Israel. In 1943, **Alabama led the nation** as the first, and possibly only, state in America to officially call for the establishment of the Jewish state and homeland. The unanimous **joint resolution** passed both state houses five years before Israel was reborn as a nation, urging both the United States and the United Nations to action. This call came in the midst of World War II, when the axis powers were not only waging world war against America and Europe, but also seeking the mass murder and systematic extermination of the Jews of Europe.

In addition, there are many that believe an even stronger and expanding state-to-state relationship between Alabama and Israel would be both **deeply meaningful** and **mutually beneficial**. This broad conviction has led to the formation of an **Alabama-Israel Task Force (AITF)** as a catalyst for further cultivating the Alabama-Israel relationship, and with last year being the **70th anniversary** of the **1943 resolution** from Alabama calling for the establishment of the Jewish state and homeland, these have together led to a **Historic “Alabama Celebrates Israel” Statewide Gathering** at 7pm Tuesday March 25th, 2014 in the Von Braun Civic Center (VBC) in Huntsville, AL. The date is aligned with the biblical season of Purim - the book of Esther - which is an account reminding us of hostile times and intentions and our calling to respond in such a time as this.

The **Purpose** of the **Statewide Anniversary Celebration** is three-fold:

- *Remember Our Past* - by honoring the historic 1943 Alabama Joint Resolution and the legacy we have inherited as a state
- *Celebrate Our Present* - by celebrating the seven decades of unwavering support, and the special history of the unique state-to-state relationship that has developed between Alabama and Israel through those years
- *Shape Our Future* - by committing to the continued friendship, brotherhood, and strengthening of that relationship in our generation, and with the launch of a new Alabama-Israel initiative (an Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (EPDR) initiative in Sderot, Israel with the Israel Leadership Institute (ILI))

The **Participation** in the **Statewide Anniversary Celebration** includes:

- Alabama and Israeli dignitaries, a cross-section of political, religious, business, military, and other leaders from across the state, the broader Jewish and Christian communities, and others who value a strong Alabama-Israel relationship
- An **Alabama-Israel State Leadership Roundtable** the following day to cultivate relationship among strategic leadership from across the state from the broader Pro-Israel community
- Also in association the launching of a **People’s Resolution of Reaffirmation** of the Historic 1943 Resolution and Renewed Commitment in our Generation

The Statewide Celebration is **free** and open to the public, and all **donations** contribute the launch of a new Alabama-Israel Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (EPDR) initiative in Israel with the Israel Leadership Institute (ILI).

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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