

MK Yehiel (Hilik) Bar
Deputy Speaker of the Knesset
The Knesset, Givat Ram
Jerusalem 91950



ח"כ יחיאל (חיליק) בר
סגן יושב ראש הכנסת
הכנסת, גבעת רם
ירושלים 91950

February 1, 2016

The Honorable Kay Ivey
Lieutenant Governor, President of the Alabama Senate
Alabama State House
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Lieutenant Governor Ivey,

It is with deep gratitude that I humbly accept your invitation to address the Joint Session of the Alabama Legislature on Thursday, April 7, 2016. I would like also to extend my gratitude to your colleagues President Pro Tern Del Marsh and House Speaker Mike Hubbard.

Only a few days ago, on the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27th) the world commemorated the victims of those dark days. But while so many countries and states stood silent during that era, one must always remember the admirable and moral 1943 resolution passed by both state houses of Alabama, calling for the establishment of the Jewish Homeland. With this courageous statement, Alabama stood as a beacon of light and the Jewish people will never forget it.

Considering this outstanding history that we share, I strongly believe in the mission of strengthening the relationships between the two states, and embarking on a new stage of cooperation. I am aware of the important work done by the Alabama-Israel Task Force and their partners in Israel, the Israel Leadership Institute in bringing the people of both states together. I hope that my visit will contribute to the expansion of their work and the potential for further cooperation. Both states can benefit from deeper ties, and your invitation to me is a strong encouragement to my hopes.

Thank you again. I am looking forward to meeting you in person and to addressing the Joint Session.

With best regards,

MK Hilik Bar

Deputy Speaker of the Knesset