

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



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## STATE OF ALABAMA

October 15, 2019

The Honorable Yuli-Yoel Edelstein  
Speaker of the Knesset  
The Knesset, Givat Ram  
Jerusalem 91950

Dear Speaker Edelstein,

Earlier this year, in celebrating the 70th Anniversary of Israel, I worked with the Alabama legislature to carry on a very special legacy. As the anniversary of Israel's Independence was approaching, the state of Alabama led the nation and formally recognized Jerusalem as the eternal undivided capital of Israel and affirmed the U.S. Embassy move in a historic joint resolution (Act 66, SJR 27, 2019 RS). It originated from the same legislative body that - over 75 years ago, in the midst of World War II - formally called for the recognition of the Jewish state and homeland through a unanimous joint resolution, five years before Israel was reborn as a nation (Act 144, SJR4, 1943 RS).

As Governor of Alabama, I am grateful for the long and meaningful friendship between Alabama and Israel. In more recent years, I recall fondly your personal congratulatory remarks when I was honored at the Alabama-Israel Leadership Gala in 2017, as we commemorated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reunification of Jerusalem - an occasion for which I also signed a proclamation, as Israel's national commemoration was occurring.

Our two nations are indelibly tied together, and Alabama is dedicated to a strong state-to-state relationship. Alabama remains committed to standing with Israel, and I will continue to work to keep our bond strong and look forward to future opportunities for even deeper ties, expanding cooperation, and new partnerships for the mutual benefit of our people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey".

Kay Ivey  
Governor