

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

Clarifying that it is United States policy to recognize Israel's sovereignty
over the Golan Heights.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CRUZ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to
the Committee on _____

A BILL

Clarifying that it is United States policy to recognize Israel's
sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That it is the sense of the Senate that—

4 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) On September 1, 1975, President Gerald

7 Ford provided a diplomatic assurance to Israel that

8 “the U.S. will support the position that an overall

9 settlement with Syria in the framework of a peace

10 agreement must assure Israel's security from attack

1 from the Golan Heights [and] it will give great
2 weight to Israel’s position that any peace agreement
3 with Syria must be predicated on Israel remaining
4 on the Golan Heights”;

5 (2) In October 1991, Secretary of State James
6 Baker provided a diplomatic assurance to Israel that
7 “the United States continues to stand behind the as-
8 surance given by President Ford to Prime Minister
9 Rabin on September 1, 1975”.

10 (3) Iran has used the war in Syria to establish
11 a long-term military presence in the Levant, to at-
12 tack Israel from across the Golan Heights, and to
13 create territorial corridors that allow it to provide
14 arms to its troops and terrorist proxies.

15 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

16 It is the sense of Congress that—

17 (1) Israel’s security from attacks from Syria
18 and Lebanon cannot be assured without Israeli sov-
19 ereignty over the Golan Heights; and

20 (2) in light of new realities on the ground, in-
21 cluding Iran’s presence in Syria—

22 (A) it is unrealistic to expect that the out-
23 come of a peace agreement between Israel and
24 Syria will be an Israeli withdrawal from the
25 Golan Heights; and

1 (B) it is realistic to expect that any peace
2 agreement between Israel and Syria will only be
3 achieved on the basis of Israel remaining on the
4 Golan Heights; and

5 (3) it is in the United States national security
6 interest to ensure that—

7 (A) Israel retains control of the Golan
8 Heights; and

9 (B) the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad
10 faces diplomatic and geopolitical consequences
11 for its killing of civilians, the ethnic cleansing
12 of Arab Sunnis, and the use of weapons of
13 mass destruction.

14 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF UNITED STATES POLICY.**

15 It shall be the policy of the United States—

16 (1) to recognize Israel's sovereignty over the
17 Golan Heights; and

18 (2) to promote and conduct joint projects with
19 Israel on the Golan Heights, including projects—

20 (A) in basic and applied scientific fields;

21 (B) in industrial research and develop-
22 ment; and

23 (C) in strategic and applied research of ag-
24 ricultural problems.

1 SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

2 Any reference to “Israel” in any existing or future
3 Act of Congress relating to appropriations or foreign com-
4 merce, including customs and international trade, shall be
5 interpreted to include the Golan Heights.