

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNITION OF 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF REBIRTH OF ISRAEL

WHEREAS: there are currently one hundred-fifty thousand Ohio residents of Jewish faith, including a small population in Richland County which first migrated in the mid 1800's to the Mansfield and Plymouth areas and reaching a peak population of over five hundred in 1961, (1) and...

WHEREAS: historically there have been several area synagogues contributing to local culture with one Ontario synagogue still active today (2) holding public menorah displays, giving charity, and holding public observances of Holocaust Remembrance Day, and...

WHEREAS: during the conclusion of World War Two, Mansfield resident Don Timmer of the 89th Infantry Division was part of the liberation of Stalag Nord Ohrdruf, the first concentration camp liberated by American forces, resulting in General Dwight Eisenhower's orders to take photos of the atrocities of the Jewish Holocaust preserving for future generations, (3) and...

WHEREAS: both Israel and Ohio are prosperous states comprised of immigrants, with representative-democratic forms of government, sharing exceptional histories, with Israel known as a high-tech startup superpower, and both Israel and Ohio sharing common bonds in agriculture, life sciences, and aerospace, (4) and...

WHEREAS: in 2016, the 200th Red Horse Squadron based at the Mansfield National Guard served as the project lead for the construction of four multi-purpose buildings in Israel providing permanent operational exercise space for U.S. and Israeli military forces participating in joint military exercises, (5) and...

WHEREAS: in 1997, the Village of Shiloh formed a sister-city partnership with Shiloh, Israel, (6) and on June 17, 2008, Israeli dairy experts visited a Mennonite farmer Floyd Zimmerman in northern Richland County as part of an Ohio-Israeli Agricultural Initiative sponsored by the Negev Foundation, (7) and ...

WHEREAS: in 2016, Ohio became the fourteenth state in the nation to pass anti-BDS legislation (8) and continues to be one of the top holders of Israeli bonds for any governmental entity in the world; (9) and...

WHEREAS: in 2002, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke at the Ashland Convocation Center, (10) and in 2017, an apology letter addressed to the Israeli Prime Minister was sent by

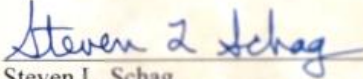
leading clergymen from one hundred-three congregations across North Central Ohio apologizing for the anti-Semitic position the U.S. Federal government took for not supporting Israeli sovereignty in U.N. Resolution 2334, (11) and...

WHEREAS: in Richland County Treasurer authorized the investment of \$200,000 in taxpayer dollars for Israeli bonds at the request of leading clergymen from forty congregations in Richland County, (12) and the Israeli Prime Minister personally thanked thirty-three area clergymen for their commitment to invest in Israeli bonds, (13) and...

WHEREAS: in 2015, the Israeli Knesset Deputy Speaker Hilik Bar became the first foreign parliamentarian to address the Ohio State Legislature and was given the "Key to the State of Ohio" an honor only three others have received, (14) and later in 2018, the Deputy Speaker visited Ontario, Ohio to thank the area for its support of Israel, (15) resulting in the North Central Ohio region receiving recognition from Israeli media with headline: "Does Rural Ohio Lead the World in Love of Israel?" (16) and...

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Municipality of Shelby, Ohio recognizes the contributions of Jewish citizens and the Nation of Israel, and therefore, the Clerk of Council will transmit duly authenticated copies of this proclamation to the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper authorities in the State of Israel




Steven L. Schag
Mayor of the City of Shelby, Ohio