Subject:

FW: J Street's Position on HRes 311

FYI...

I hope you had a good weekend. I'm reaching out to share J Street's thoughts on H.Res. 311, which is set to be voted on tomorrow (4/25). This resolution welcomes the 75th anniversary of the establishment of Israel and encourages the expansion of the Abraham Accords.

While this resolution is not problematic in what it says, it is problematic in terms of what it omits. Unlike the 70th anniversary resolution, this resolution makes no mention of a "two-state solution," a direct reference to Palestinians or the goal of peace with the Palestinians. The omission of a two-state solution, or even hope for peace with the Palestinians is purposeful and changes longstanding bipartisan precedent to accommodate growing Republican abandonment of support for two states. We urge your boss, regardless of the Representative's vote on this resolution, to clarify and vocally support the goal of a "democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized, democratic Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security" as Congress did in 2018.

In deliberately not mentioning the Palestinians while extensively celebrating the Abraham Accords and their potential, the resolution intentionally differs from Biden administration policy to "bring the Palestinians into" the accords and ensure they benefit from them. Finally, it is noteworthy that this resolution fails to mention Israel's democratic crisis, the months of protests in response, and the fight for Israel's democratic future at this moment.

If your boss feels compelled to vote for this resolution, we urge that they issue or join a broader statement to reaffirm support for a two-state solution.

Best,

J Street