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"Permanent commission on N.J.-Israel relations is created," The Record, 12-23-08, p. A04

LAW/IS 3/11/09

P.L. 2008, CHAPTER 125, *approved December 22, 2008*  
Assembly, No. 3162 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT to establish the “New Jersey-Israel Commission” as a  
2 permanent commission in the Department of State, and  
3 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

- 7  
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares:
- 9 a. On April 25, 1988, in commemoration of the 40th  
10 anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, the State of New  
11 Jersey entered into a Sister State Agreement with Israel as a symbol  
12 of the potential for cooperation that exists between our two states;  
13 and
- 14 b. The agreement calls for the development of trade and  
15 cultural and educational exchanges, in addition to encouraging the  
16 development of capital investment and joint business ventures; and
- 17 c. On May 31, 1989, the State of New Jersey established the  
18 New Jersey-Israel Commission as a temporary commission by  
19 Executive Order No. 208 of Governor Thomas H. Kean to enhance  
20 New Jersey's ability to implement the stated goals of the agreement;  
21 and
- 22 d. The commission was continued by Executive Order Nos. 35  
23 and 90 of Governor James J. Florio through and including May 31,  
24 1995; and
- 25 e. The commission was continued by Executive Order Nos. 37  
26 and 70 of Governor Christine T. Whitman through and including  
27 January 1, 2002; and
- 28 f. The commission was continued by Executive Order No. 12  
29 of Governor James E. McGreevey through and including January 1,  
30 2007; and
- 31 g. The commission was continued by Executive Order No. 49  
32 of Governor Jon S. Corzine through and including January 1, 2012;  
33 and
- 34 h. The commission has effectively fostered a spirit of  
35 cooperation between the citizens of the State of Israel and the  
36 citizens of the State of New Jersey that should continue, on a  
37 permanent basis, in order to further the goals of the agreement.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly ASG committee amendments adopted September 22, 2008.

1       2. 'a.' The New Jersey-Israel Commission continued pursuant to  
2 Executive Order No. 49 of 2007, together with its functions,  
3 powers, duties, and subcommittees is hereby continued and  
4 established as a permanent commission in the Department of State,  
5 in accordance with the provisions of this act ' , P.L. , c. (C. )  
6 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)'.

7       '[The] b. Upon the effective date of this act and through  
8 December 31, 2011, the' commission shall consist of a minimum of  
9 15 members and a maximum of 100 members, to be appointed by  
10 the Governor. Eight members of the commission shall be members  
11 of the Legislature. Four of the legislative members shall be  
12 members of the General Assembly, no more than two of whom shall  
13 be of the same political party, and four shall be members of the  
14 Senate, no more than two of whom shall be of the same political  
15 party. The eight legislative members shall be appointed by the  
16 Governor upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the General  
17 Assembly and the President of the Senate, respectively. All  
18 members of the commission shall serve at the pleasure of the  
19 Governor, and vacancies in the membership of the commission shall  
20 be filled in the same manner as the original appointments were  
21 made. 'The members of the commission appointed pursuant to  
22 Executive Order No. 49 of 2007 and serving on the effective date of  
23 this act shall continue as members of the commission until  
24 December 31, 2011 on which date the appointments of all the  
25 members shall expire.

26       c. On January 1, 2012 and thereafter, the membership of the  
27 commission shall consist of 85 members to be appointed by the  
28 Governor, as follows:

29       (1) Eight members of the commission shall be members of the  
30 Legislature. Four of the legislative members shall be members of  
31 the General Assembly, no more than two of whom shall be of the  
32 same political party, and four shall be members of the Senate, no  
33 more than two of whom shall be of the same political party. The  
34 eight legislative members shall be appointed by the Governor upon  
35 the recommendation of the Speaker of the General Assembly and  
36 the President of the Senate, respectively. The legislative members  
37 shall serve during the two-year legislative term in which the  
38 appointment is made.

39       (2) Seventy-seven members of the commission shall be  
40 members of the public, to be appointed by the Governor to serve for  
41 a term of three years, except that of those 77 members first  
42 appointed, 25 shall be appointed to serve an initial term of two  
43 years, 25 shall be appointed to serve an initial term of three years,  
44 and 27 shall be appointed to serve an initial term of four years.

45       (3) A vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be  
46 filled in the same manner as the original appointment is made.

1 d. Members of the commission shall serve without  
2 compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses actually  
3 incurred in the performance of their duties, within the limit of funds  
4 appropriated to the commission or otherwise made available to it  
5 for its purposes.

6 e. The commission may meet and hold hearings at the places it  
7 designates throughout the State.<sup>1</sup>

8  
9 3. The Governor shall designate a chairperson or co-  
10 chairpersons from among the members of the commission, who  
11 shall serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Governor. The  
12 chairperson or co-chairpersons, as applicable, shall appoint from  
13 among the commission members the subcommittee chairpersons  
14 who shall each chair one subcommittee. The chairperson or co-  
15 chairpersons, as applicable, shall organize the commission's  
16 executive committee, to be composed of the chairperson or co-  
17 chairpersons, as applicable, the subcommittee chairpersons, and  
18 additional at-large members to be appointed by the chairperson or  
19 co-chairpersons, as applicable, from among the members of the  
20 commission.

21 <sup>1</sup>A majority of the members of the executive committee shall  
22 constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the  
23 commission. Action may be taken and motions adopted at any  
24 meeting of the commission only if a majority of the executive  
25 committee of the commission is present and voting.<sup>1</sup>

26  
27 4. a. The purpose of the New Jersey-Israel Commission shall  
28 be to implement the stated goals of the Sister State Agreement  
29 between New Jersey and Israel. In furtherance of its purpose, the  
30 commission shall establish subcommittees to examine the following  
31 issues:

32 (1) Economic Development and International Trade;

33 (2) Research, Science and Technology;

34 (3) Education;

35 (4) Culture and Tourism; and

36 (5) other issues as determined by the commission pursuant to its  
37 purposes.

38 b. The commission shall report its findings, recommendations  
39 and plans directly to the Governor.

40  
41 5. The New Jersey-Israel Commission shall be authorized to  
42 <sup>1</sup>[solicit and receive financial and in-kind contributions from  
43 private organizations in furtherance of its purposes] raise funds,  
44 through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with  
45 other groups, and accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals,  
46 corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, public and  
47 private organizations and institutions, to defray the commission's

1 administrative expenses and carry out its purposes<sup>1</sup> as set forth in  
2 this act, P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as  
3 this bill). <sup>1</sup>【Members of the commission shall serve without  
4 compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses actually  
5 incurred in the performance of their duties, within the limit of funds  
6 appropriated to the commission or otherwise made available to it  
7 for its purposes. The commission may meet and hold hearings at  
8 the places it designates throughout the State during the sessions or  
9 recesses of the Legislature.】 The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests  
10 received pursuant to this section shall be deposited in a State  
11 Treasury account and allocated and annually appropriated to the  
12 Department of State to defray the commission’s administrative  
13 expenses and carry out its purposes.<sup>1</sup>

14

15 6. All other provisions of Executive Order No. 208 of 1989,  
16 Executive Order No. 35 of 1991, Executive Order No. 90 of 1993,  
17 Executive Order No. 37 of 1995, Executive Order No. 70 of 1997,  
18 Executive Order No. 12 of 2002, and Executive Order No. 49 of  
19 2007 that are not inconsistent with this act, P.L. , c. (C. )  
20 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall remain in full  
21 force and effect.

22

23 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

24

25

26

27

28 Establishes the “New Jersey-Israel Commission” as a permanent  
29 commission in the Department of State.

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3162**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**213th LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER**

**District 36 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman CARIDAD RODRIGUEZ**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Assemblywoman CAROLINE CASAGRANDE**

**District 12 (Mercer and Monmouth)**

**Assemblyman DECLAN J. O'SCANLON, JR.**

**District 12 (Mercer and Monmouth)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes the “New Jersey-Israel Commission” as a permanent commission in the Department of State.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/23/2008)**

A3162 JOHNSON, VAINIERI HUTTLE

2

1 AN ACT to establish the “New Jersey-Israel Commission” as a  
2 permanent commission in the Department of State, and  
3 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*

7

8 1. The Legislature finds and declares:

9 a. On April 25, 1988, in commemoration of the 40th  
10 anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, the State of New  
11 Jersey entered into a Sister State Agreement with Israel as a symbol  
12 of the potential for cooperation that exists between our two states;  
13 and

14 b. The agreement calls for the development of trade and  
15 cultural and educational exchanges, in addition to encouraging the  
16 development of capital investment and joint business ventures; and

17 c. On May 31, 1989, the State of New Jersey established the  
18 New Jersey-Israel Commission as a temporary commission by  
19 Executive Order No. 208 of Governor Thomas H. Kean to enhance  
20 New Jersey's ability to implement the stated goals of the agreement;  
21 and

22 d. The commission was continued by Executive Order Nos. 35  
23 and 90 of Governor James J. Florio through and including May 31,  
24 1995; and

25 e. The commission was continued by Executive Order Nos. 37  
26 and 70 of Governor Christine T. Whitman through and including  
27 January 1, 2002; and

28 f. The commission was continued by Executive Order No. 12  
29 of Governor James E. McGreevey through and including January 1,  
30 2007; and

31 g. The commission was continued by Executive Order No. 49  
32 of Governor Jon S. Corzine through and including January 1, 2012;  
33 and

34 h. The commission has effectively fostered a spirit of  
35 cooperation between the citizens of the State of Israel and the  
36 citizens of the State of New Jersey that should continue, on a  
37 permanent basis, in order to further the goals of the agreement.

38

39 2. The New Jersey-Israel Commission continued pursuant to  
40 Executive Order No. 49 of 2007, together with its functions,  
41 powers, duties, and subcommittees is hereby continued and  
42 established as a permanent commission in the Department of State,  
43 in accordance with the provisions of this act. The commission shall  
44 consist of a minimum of 15 members and a maximum of 100  
45 members, to be appointed by the Governor. Eight members of the  
46 commission shall be members of the Legislature. Four of the  
47 legislative members shall be members of the General Assembly, no  
48 more than two of whom shall be of the same political party, and



1 four shall be members of the Senate, no more than two of whom  
2 shall be of the same political party. The eight legislative members  
3 shall be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the  
4 Speaker of the General Assembly and the President of the Senate,  
5 respectively. All members of the commission shall serve at the  
6 pleasure of the Governor, and vacancies in the membership of the  
7 commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original  
8 appointments were made.

9  
10 3. The Governor shall designate a chairperson or co-  
11 chairpersons from among the members of the commission, who  
12 shall serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Governor. The  
13 chairperson or co-chairpersons, as applicable, shall appoint from  
14 among the commission members the subcommittee chairpersons  
15 who shall each chair one subcommittee. The chairperson or co-  
16 chairpersons, as applicable, shall organize the commission's  
17 executive committee, to be composed of the chairperson or co-  
18 chairpersons, as applicable, the subcommittee chairpersons, and  
19 additional at-large members to be appointed by the chairperson or  
20 co-chairpersons, as applicable, from among the members of the  
21 commission.

22  
23 4. a. The purpose of the New Jersey-Israel Commission shall  
24 be to implement the stated goals of the Sister State Agreement  
25 between New Jersey and Israel. In furtherance of its purpose, the  
26 commission shall establish subcommittees to examine the following  
27 issues:

- 28 (1) Economic Development and International Trade;
- 29 (2) Research, Science and Technology;
- 30 (3) Education;
- 31 (4) Culture and Tourism; and
- 32 (5) other issues as determined by the commission pursuant to its  
33 purposes.

34 b. The commission shall report its findings, recommendations  
35 and plans directly to the Governor.

36  
37 5. The New Jersey-Israel Commission shall be authorized to  
38 solicit and receive financial and in-kind contributions from private  
39 organizations in furtherance of its purposes as set forth in this act,  
40 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).  
41 Members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but  
42 may be reimbursed for expenses actually incurred in the  
43 performance of their duties, within the limit of funds appropriated  
44 to the commission or otherwise made available to it for its purposes.  
45 The commission may meet and hold hearings at the places it  
46 designates throughout the State during the sessions or recesses of  
47 the Legislature.



**A3162 JOHNSON, VAINIERI HUTTLE**

5

1 subcommittees to examine designated subject areas; (5) the  
2 formation of an executive committee to be composed of the  
3 chairperson or co-chairpersons, as appropriate, the subcommittee  
4 chairpersons, and at-large members to be selected by the  
5 chairperson or co-chairpersons, as appropriate; and (6) the  
6 commission's ability to accept financial and in-kind contributions  
7 from private organizations.

8 Under the bill, the provisions of all previous Executive Orders  
9 regarding the commission that are not inconsistent with the  
10 provisions of the bill would continue in full force and effect.

# ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 3162**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments for Assembly Bill No. 3162.

As amended, this bill continues and establishes permanently the New Jersey-Israel Commission in the Department of State.

In 1988, in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, the State of New Jersey entered into a Sister State Agreement with Israel as a symbol of the potential for cooperation that exists between New Jersey and Israel. The agreement calls for the development of trade and cultural and educational exchanges, in addition to encouraging the development of capital investment and joint business ventures. In 1989, the New Jersey-Israel Commission was established as a temporary commission by gubernatorial executive order and has continued to be temporary by executive orders. Executive Order No. 49 by Governor Jon S. Corzine extends and continues the commission until January of 2012.

The bill maintains the current membership of the commission of between 15 and 100 members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor, with eight members being legislators, until December 31, 2011. As of January 1, 2012, the bill establishes a commission membership of 85, eight legislators and 77 public members. The legislative members will be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the General Assembly Speaker and the Senate President, to serve during the two-year legislative term in which the appointment is made. The 77 public members also will be appointed by the Governor, for a three-year term, except that of the public members first appointed, 25 will be appointed to serve an initial term of two years, 25 an initial term of three years, and 27 an initial term of four years.

Under the bill, a majority of the members of the executive committee of the commission will constitute a quorum and actions may be taken and motions adopted at any meeting of the commission, if a majority of the executive committee is present and voting. The bill authorizes the commission to raise funds and accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, government agencies, organizations and institutions to defray the administrative

expenses and costs of the commission. Such funds will be deposited in a State Treasury account to be annually appropriated and allocated to the Department of State to cover the commission's costs.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to continue the current membership of the commission and the manner of appointment, until December 31, 2011. The amendments provide that as of January 1, 2012, the commission membership will be a total of 85 members, eight legislators and 77 public members. The legislative members will be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the General Assembly Speaker and the Senate President, to serve during the two-year legislative term in which the appointment is made. The 77 public members will be appointed by the Governor for a three-year term, except that the first public members will be appointed to staggered terms.

The committee amendments further provide that a majority of the members of the executive committee of the commission will constitute a quorum and authorize the commission to raise funds and accept gifts, grants and bequests to defray the administrative expenses and costs of the commission.

# SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3162**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: OCTOBER 20, 2008

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably Senate, No. 3162 (1R).

This bill continues and establishes permanently the New Jersey-Israel Commission in the Department of State.

In 1988, in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, the State of New Jersey entered into a Sister State Agreement with Israel as a symbol of the potential for cooperation that exists between New Jersey and Israel. The agreement calls for the development of trade and cultural and educational exchanges, in addition to encouraging the development of capital investment and joint business ventures. In 1989, the New Jersey-Israel Commission was established as a temporary commission by gubernatorial executive order and has continued to be temporary by executive orders. Executive Order No. 49 by Governor Jon S. Corzine extends and continues the commission until January of 2012.

The bill maintains the current membership of the commission of between 15 and 100 members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor, with eight members being legislators, until December 31, 2011. As of January 1, 2012, the bill establishes a commission membership of 85, eight legislators and 77 public members. The legislative members will be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the General Assembly Speaker and the Senate President, to serve during the two-year legislative term in which the appointment is made. The 77 public members also will be appointed by the Governor, for a three-year term, except that of the public members first appointed, 25 will be appointed to serve an initial term of two years, 25 an initial term of three years, and 27 an initial term of four years.

Under the bill, a majority of the members of the executive committee of the commission will constitute a quorum and actions may be taken and motions adopted at any meeting of the commission, if a majority of the executive committee is present and voting. The bill authorizes the commission to raise funds and accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, government agencies, organizations and institutions to defray the administrative

expenses and costs of the commission. Such funds will be deposited in a State Treasury account to be annually appropriated and allocated to the Department of State to cover the commission's costs.

This bill is identical to Senate, No. 2240 of 2008.

# SENATE, No. 2240

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 16, 2008

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LORETTA WEINBERG**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Senator ROBERT M. GORDON**

**District 38 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Sarlo, T.Kean, Beck, Singer, Baroni, Ruiz and Turner**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes the “New Jersey-Israel Commission” as a permanent commission in the Department of State.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/25/2008)**



1 AN ACT to establish the “New Jersey-Israel Commission” as a  
2 permanent commission in the Department of State, and  
3 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*

7  
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares:

9 a. On April 25, 1988, in commemoration of the 40th  
10 anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, the State of New  
11 Jersey entered into a Sister State Agreement with Israel as a symbol  
12 of the potential for cooperation that exists between our two states;  
13 and

14 b. The agreement calls for the development of trade and  
15 cultural and educational exchanges, in addition to encouraging the  
16 development of capital investment and joint business ventures; and

17 c. On May 31, 1989, the State of New Jersey established the  
18 New Jersey-Israel Commission as a temporary commission by  
19 Executive Order No. 208 of Governor Thomas H. Kean to enhance  
20 New Jersey's ability to implement the stated goals of the agreement;  
21 and

22 d. The commission was continued by Executive Order Nos. 35  
23 and 90 of Governor James J. Florio through and including May 31,  
24 1995; and

25 e. The commission was continued by Executive Order Nos. 37  
26 and 70 of Governor Christine T. Whitman through and including  
27 January 1, 2002; and

28 f. The commission was continued by Executive Order No. 12  
29 of Governor James E. McGreevey through and including January 1,  
30 2007; and

31 g. The commission was continued by Executive Order No. 49  
32 of Governor Jon S. Corzine through and including January 1, 2012;  
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34 h. The commission has effectively fostered a spirit of  
35 cooperation between the citizens of the State of Israel and the  
36 citizens of the State of New Jersey that should continue, on a  
37 permanent basis, in order to further the goals of the agreement.

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39 2. a. The New Jersey-Israel Commission continued pursuant to  
40 Executive Order No. 49 of 2007, together with its functions,  
41 powers, duties, and subcommittees is hereby continued and  
42 established as a permanent commission in the Department of State,  
43 in accordance with the provisions of this act , P.L. , c. (C. )  
44 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

45 b. Upon the effective date of this act and through December 31,  
46 2011, the commission shall consist of a minimum of 15 members  
47 and a maximum of 100 members, to be appointed by the Governor.  
48 Eight members of the commission shall be members of the

1 Legislature. Four of the legislative members shall be members of  
2 the General Assembly, no more than two of whom shall be of the  
3 same political party, and four shall be members of the Senate, no  
4 more than two of whom shall be of the same political party. The  
5 eight legislative members shall be appointed by the Governor upon  
6 the recommendation of the Speaker of the General Assembly and  
7 the President of the Senate, respectively. All members of the  
8 commission shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and  
9 vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be filled in  
10 the same manner as the original appointments were made. The  
11 members of the commission appointed pursuant to Executive Order  
12 No. 49 of 2007 and serving on the effective date of this act shall  
13 continue as members of the commission until December 31, 2011  
14 on which date the appointments of all the members shall expire.

15 c. On January 1, 2012 and thereafter, the membership of the  
16 commission shall consist of 85 members to be appointed by the  
17 Governor, as follows:

18 (1) Eight members of the commission shall be members of the  
19 Legislature. Four of the legislative members shall be members of  
20 the General Assembly, no more than two of whom shall be of the  
21 same political party, and four shall be members of the Senate, no  
22 more than two of whom shall be of the same political party. The  
23 eight legislative members shall be appointed by the Governor upon  
24 the recommendation of the Speaker of the General Assembly and  
25 the President of the Senate, respectively. The legislative members  
26 shall serve during the two-year legislative term in which the  
27 appointment is made.

28 (2) Seventy-seven members of the commission shall be  
29 members of the public, to be appointed by the Governor to serve for  
30 a term of three years, except that of those 77 members first  
31 appointed, 25 shall be appointed to serve an initial term of two  
32 years, 25 shall be appointed to serve an initial term of three years,  
33 and 27 shall be appointed to serve an initial term of four years.

34 (3) A vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be  
35 filled in the same manner as the original appointment is made.

36 d. Members of the commission shall serve without  
37 compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses actually  
38 incurred in the performance of their duties, within the limit of funds  
39 appropriated to the commission or otherwise made available to it  
40 for its purposes.

41 e. The commission may meet and hold hearings at the places it  
42 designates throughout the State.

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45 chairpersons from among the members of the commission, who  
46 shall serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Governor. The  
47 chairperson or co-chairpersons, as applicable, shall appoint from  
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1 who shall each chair one subcommittee. The chairperson or co-  
2 chairpersons, as applicable, shall organize the commission's  
3 executive committee, to be composed of the chairperson or co-  
4 chairpersons, as applicable, the subcommittee chairpersons, and  
5 additional at-large members to be appointed by the chairperson or  
6 co-chairpersons, as applicable, from among the members of the  
7 commission.

8 A majority of the members of the executive committee shall  
9 constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the  
10 commission. Action may be taken and motions adopted at any  
11 meeting of the commission only if a majority of the executive  
12 committee of the commission is present and voting.

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15 be to implement the stated goals of the Sister State Agreement  
16 between New Jersey and Israel. In furtherance of its purpose, the  
17 commission shall establish subcommittees to examine the following  
18 issues:

- 19 (1) Economic Development and International Trade;  
20 (2) Research, Science and Technology;  
21 (3) Education;  
22 (4) Culture and Tourism; and  
23 (5) other issues as determined by the commission pursuant to its  
24 purposes.

25 b. The commission shall report its findings, recommendations  
26 and plans directly to the Governor.

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28 5. The New Jersey-Israel Commission shall be authorized to  
29 raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising events,  
30 alone or with other groups, and accept gifts, grants and bequests  
31 from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies,  
32 public and private organizations and institutions, to defray the  
33 commission's administrative expenses and carry out its purposes as  
34 set forth in this act, P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
35 Legislature as this bill). The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests  
36 received pursuant to this section shall be deposited in a State  
37 Treasury account and allocated and annually appropriated to the  
38 Department of State to defray the commission's administrative  
39 expenses and carry out its purposes.

40

41 6. All other provisions of Executive Order No. 208 of 1989,  
42 Executive Order No. 35 of 1991, Executive Order No. 90 of 1993,  
43 Executive Order No. 37 of 1995, Executive Order No. 70 of 1997,  
44 Executive Order No. 12 of 2002, and Executive Order No. 49 of  
45 2007 that are not inconsistent with this act, P.L. , c. (C. )  
46 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall remain in full  
47 force and effect.

1       7. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6       In 1988, in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the  
7 founding of the State of Israel, the State of New Jersey entered into  
8 a Sister State Agreement with Israel as a symbol of the potential for  
9 cooperation that exists between New Jersey and Israel. The  
10 agreement calls for the development of trade and cultural and  
11 educational exchanges, in addition to encouraging the development  
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13 Jersey-Israel Commission was established as a temporary  
14 commission by gubernatorial executive order and has continued to  
15 be temporary by executive orders. Executive Order No. 49 by  
16 Governor Jon S. Corzine extends and continues the commission  
17 until January of 2012.

18       The bill maintains the current membership of the commission of  
19 between 15 and 100 members, all of whom are appointed by the  
20 Governor, with eight members being legislators, until December 31,  
21 2011. As of January 1, 2012, the bill establishes a commission  
22 membership of 85, eight legislators and 77 public members. The  
23 legislative members will be appointed by the Governor upon the  
24 recommendation of the General Assembly Speaker and the Senate  
25 President, to serve during the two-year legislative term in which the  
26 appointment is made. The 77 public members also will be  
27 appointed by the Governor, for a three-year term, except that of the  
28 public members first appointed, 25 will be appointed to serve an  
29 initial term of two years, 25 an initial term of three years, and 27 an  
30 initial term of four years.

31       Under the bill, a majority of the members of the executive  
32 committee of the commission will constitute a quorum and actions  
33 may be taken and motions adopted at any meeting of the  
34 commission, if a majority of the executive committee is present and  
35 voting. The bill authorizes the commission to raise funds and  
36 accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations,  
37 foundations, government agencies, organizations and institutions to  
38 defray the administrative expenses and costs of the commission.  
39 Such funds will be deposited in a State Treasury account to be  
40 annually appropriated and allocated to the Department of State to  
41 cover the commission's costs.

# SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 2240

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 20, 2008

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably Senate, No. 2240.

This bill continues and establishes permanently the New Jersey-Israel Commission in the Department of State.

In 1988, in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, the State of New Jersey entered into a Sister State Agreement with Israel as a symbol of the potential for cooperation that exists between New Jersey and Israel. The agreement calls for the development of trade and cultural and educational exchanges, in addition to encouraging the development of capital investment and joint business ventures. In 1989, the New Jersey-Israel Commission was established as a temporary commission by gubernatorial executive order and has continued to be temporary by executive orders. Executive Order No. 49 by Governor Jon S. Corzine extends and continues the commission until January of 2012.

The bill maintains the current membership of the commission of between 15 and 100 members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor, with eight members being legislators, until December 31, 2011. As of January 1, 2012, the bill establishes a commission membership of 85, eight legislators and 77 public members. The legislative members will be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the General Assembly Speaker and the Senate President, to serve during the two-year legislative term in which the appointment is made. The 77 public members also will be appointed by the Governor, for a three-year term, except that of the public members first appointed, 25 will be appointed to serve an initial term of two years, 25 an initial term of three years, and 27 an initial term of four years.

Under the bill, a majority of the members of the executive committee of the commission will constitute a quorum and actions may be taken and motions adopted at any meeting of the commission, if a majority of the executive committee is present and voting. The bill authorizes the commission to raise funds and accept gifts, grants and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, government agencies, organizations and institutions to defray the administrative expenses and costs of the commission. Such funds will be deposited

in a State Treasury account to be annually appropriated and allocated to the Department of State to cover the commission's costs.

This bill is identical to Assembly, No. 3162 (1R) of 2008.



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JON S. CORZINE  
*Governor*

**For Immediate Release: For More Information:**

**Date:** December 22, 2008                      Robert Corrales

**Phone:** 609-777-2600

Governor Corzine Signs Legislation Officially Designating New Jersey Israel Commission Within Department of State

PARAMUS - Further strengthening the bilateral ties between New Jersey and Israel, Governor Jon S. Corzine today signed legislation establishing the New Jersey Israel Commission as a permanent commission within the Department of State.

"Israel is one of the Garden State's most important international partners," said Governor Corzine. "By signing this legislation, we will enhance an historic collaborative partnership that has flourished for twenty years in areas ranging from technology growth and investment to cultural and educational enrichment. As a permanent working group, I am certain the New Jersey-Israel Commission will continue to foster and advance our landmark relationship with the State of Israel."

As a symbol of potential cooperation, New Jersey signed a Sister-State Agreement with the State of Israel in 1988 to work collaboratively on areas focusing on trade, cultural and educational exchanges as well as the development of

capital investment and joint business ventures.

"This is a wonderful day for New Jersey, the State of Israel and the unique sister state relationship that's flourished for two decades," said Secretary of State Nina Mitchell Wells. "This permanent designation is proof of how important our economic and cultural ties to Israel are, and how this partnership will remain a cornerstone of New Jersey's larger international presence for years to come. To say we're thrilled is an understatement."

"Over the past 60 years, the State of New Jersey has worked to create a good relationship with Israel, through trade and cultural exchanges," said Senator Loretta Weinberg, (D-Bergen). "This is our way of congratulating our 'sister state' on 60 years, as we look forward to reinforce our current partnerships and forge new ones."

"Through the codification of the Commission, we are protecting the current agreement covering exchange programs we have with Israel, while also congratulating its people on reaching such a significant milestone," said Senator Robert Gordon, (D-Bergen).

The New Jersey-Israel Commission was established as a temporary commission in 1989 and has continued its temporary status through executive orders. Governor Corzine extended and continued the commission until January of 2012.

"Israel has been a steadfast friend and faithful ally of the United States over the past six decades, all the while showing immense bravery in the face of countless terrorist attacks," said Assemblymen Gordon M. Johnson (D-Bergen). "It's also developed one of the world's most vibrant economies, so anything New Jersey can do to promote and maintain ties with Israel is the right thing to do."

The bill, S-2240/A-3162, maintains the current membership of the commission of between 15 and 100 members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor until December 31, 2011.

As of January 1, 2012, the bill establishes a commission membership of 85, including eight legislators and 77 public members.

Primary sponsors of the legislation in the Senate were Senators Loretta Weinberg (D-Bergen) and Robert M. Gordon (D-Bergen). In the Assembly, primary sponsors were Assemblymen Gordon M. Johnson (D-Bergen), Gary S. Schaer (D-Bergen, Essex, Passaic), Declan J. O'Scanlon Jr., (R-Mercer, Monmouth) and Assemblywomen Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-Bergen), Caridad Rodriguez (D-Hudson) and Caroline Casagrande (R-Mercer, Monmouth).

Israel is one of New Jersey's top international markets, growing 195 percent from 2006 to 2007. Israel now ranks as New Jersey's ninth largest trading partner in 2007, up from 22nd in 2006.

Governor Corzine also signed SJR-62/AJR-102, congratulating Israel on its 60th anniversary. Officially, May 14 of 2008 marked the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel.

"Our ties with Israel run deep," added Governor Corzine. "We believe in the spirit and achievements of the modern State of Israel, and we are thrilled to be part of the celebration going on across the globe."

"For many New Jerseyans, family ties connect them directly to Israel," said Assemblywoman Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-Bergen). "Honoring Israel in this anniversary year also honors the families here in New Jersey who yearn for nothing more a secure future for their loved ones."

"Given the close political, economic and cultural ties between Israel and the United States, it's fitting to recognize and honor Israel on the 60th anniversary of its founding," said Assemblywoman Pamela R. Lampitt (D-Camden). "Israel is a friend and ally of the United States and has come to this nation's aid in times of crisis. We should commemorate and honor what its accomplished."

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and Assemblywomen Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-Bergen), Caroline Casagrande (R-Mercer, Monmouth), Marcia A. Karrow (R-Warren, Hunterdon), Pamela R. Lampitt (D-Camden) and Linda R. Greenstein (D-Mercer, Middlesex).

###

Photos from Governor Corzine's public events are available  
in the Governor's Newsroom section on the State of New Jersey web page, <http://www.nj.gov/governor/news/>

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