

A Special Day: Israel's 62nd Anniversary

LIZ KRUEGER April 21, 2010

This past Monday, the 19th, we celebrated the 62nd anniversary of Israeli Independence, a day also known as Yom Ha'atzmaut. I am very happy that this year the Senate commemorated Israeli Independence Day, and the unique bond between Israel and New York, through a resolution honoring the remarkable achievements of Israelis over the past 62 years.

Israel, and the strength of its people in the face of adversity, holds a special place in my heart. I feel like my whole life has been interconnected with the history of the country and the struggles it continues to go through. It is a particularly personal matter to me not only because of my own involvement in the great State of Israel but also because my father has served as an advisor to many of its great leaders over the years. I feel like I grew up with a very intimate understanding of the struggles of the Jewish people in the Middle East and throughout the world.

In celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut we remember that struggles for democracy and freedom continue in our world. The recognition of Israel's 62nd Birthday is testament to the strength and will of a people that have always fought for freedom, and the triumph of these beliefs over all odds.

Below is a link to my speech on the Senate Chamber floor.