

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2415
OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK

Page 84, after line 16, add the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

1 **SEC. 703. RECOGNITION OF THE MAGEN DAVID ADOM SOCI-**
2 **ETY IN ISRAEL AS A FULL MEMBER OF THE**
3 **INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRES-**
4 **CENT MOVEMENT.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) It is the mission of the International Red
7 Cross and Red Crescent Movement to prevent and
8 alleviate human suffering, wherever it may be found,
9 without discrimination.

10 (2) The International Red Cross and Red Cres-
11 cent Movement is a worldwide institution in which
12 all National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
13 have equal status and share equal responsibilities.

14 (3) The state of Israel has ratified the Geneva
15 Conventions which govern the International Red
16 Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

17 (4) The Magen David Adom Society is the na-
18 tional humanitarian society in the state of Israel.

1 (5) The Magen David Adom Society follows all
2 the principles of the International Red Cross and
3 Red Crescent Movement.

4 (6) Since the founding of the Magen David
5 Adom Society in 1930, the American Red Cross has
6 regarded it as a sister national society and close
7 working ties have been established between the 2 so-
8 cieties.

9 (7) The Magen David Adom Society is excluded
10 from full membership in the International Con-
11 ference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Move-
12 ment solely because the Society is not an official
13 protective symbol recognized by either the Geneva
14 Conventions governing the International Red Cross
15 and Red Crescent Movement or the Statutes of the
16 International Red Cross and Red Crescent Move-
17 ment.

18 (8) During the past 25 years the American Red
19 Cross has consistently advocated recognition and
20 membership of the Magen David Adom Society in
21 the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Move-
22 ment.

23 (9) The state of Israel has unsuccessfully tried
24 in the past to amend the Geneva Conventions to

1 allow for the emblematic recognition of the Magen
2 David Adom Society.

3 (10) Recognition of the Magen David Adom So-
4 ciety in Israel as a member of the International Red
5 Cross and Red Crescent Movement would help for-
6 tify the spirit of goodwill in the Middle East peace
7 process.

8 (b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
9 the Congress that—

10 (1) the President should, at the earliest possible
11 date, enlist the cooperation of all nations that are
12 signatory to the Geneva Conventions to ensure that
13 the recognition of the Magen David Adom Society in
14 Israel as a full member of the International Red
15 Cross and Red Crescent Movement is resolved at the
16 forthcoming 27th International Conference of the
17 Red Cross and Red Crescent; and

18 (2) the President should support a resolution by
19 that Conference requesting the International Com-
20 mittee of the Red Cross to waive on an exceptional
21 basis the 5th condition of recognition in article 4 of
22 its Statutes of the Movement, thus enabling the full
23 participation of the Magen David Adom Society as
24 a member of the International Red Cross and Red
25 Crescent Movement.