The Bill for the “Jerusalem and Its Daughters” Law - 2017 [5777]

Definitions

1. In this Law –
   “The Local Attached Authorities” are the local authorities which were included in the first addition.

   “The Minister” – Minister of the Interior

Extension of Jerusalem’s Jurisdiction

2. The area of jurisdiction of Jerusalem will be expanded and will include the jurisdiction of the attached local authorities.

Daughter Municipalities

3. (a) The attached local municipalities and the Jerusalem neighbourhoods which were added in the second addition will become daughter municipalities of the Municipality of Jerusalem.

(b) The daughter municipalities will have councils which will be elected by their residents at the time of Jerusalem’s municipal elections. These councils will have the authorities and powers determined by the Minister with the approval of the Internal Affairs and Environmental Committee of the Knesset.
Implementation and Regulations

4. The Minister is responsible for implementing this law.

The First Addition

(Article 1)

(1) Municipality of Beitar Illit;
(2) Municipality of Ma’ale Adumim;
(3) Local Council of Givat Zeev;
(4) Gush Etzion Regional Council;
(5) Local Council of Efrat.

The Second Addition

(Article 3)

(1) Shoufat Camp;
(2) Kufr ‘Aqab;
(3) Anata.

Explanations

Jerusalem has been the capital of Israel and the Jewish people for more than three thousand years. Fifty years ago, the city was liberated and reunited.

In the recent years, on the background of some demographic, cultural, social and political developments, the position of Jerusalem as the leading and most vital city in Israel was undermined, and its strong and leading population has been moving to the Shfela (Lowland) cities. The notion of “Jerusalem, eternal capital of Israel” became blurry, lost its symbolism and was broken down to issues of demography and contemporary political realism amidst an ongoing Palestinian determination to control the city and its holy sites. The proposed bill will enable the changing of this trend and will help Jerusalem reclaim its position as the symbol and heart of the Jewish people, and will gather up the finest forces of Israel and world Jewry for the purpose of strengthening the city of Jerusalem.

This bill stipulates that the residents of Jerusalem’s surroundings within the First Addition will become part of Jerusalem. This way, Jerusalem will add a population which will preserve the demographic balance, as well as the addition of many territories for enhancing residential buildings, commerce and tourism for the purpose of maintaining “green lungs”.

At the same time, the localities which will be added to Jerusalem will keep a certain municipal autonomy and they will be considered daughter municipalities of Jerusalem; whereas the Minister of the Interior will determine the distribution of authorities between the Municipality of Jerusalem and its daughter municipalities.

Also, we propose that the Jerusalem neighbourhoods which were separated from it by the separation wall – and which were included in the Second Addition – will also be considered daughter municipalities of Jerusalem within the same meaning mentioned above.
Unofficial Translation

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Submitted to the Knesset Chairman and deputies
and presented to the Knesset’s table on the date of 10.7.2017 [16th of Tamuz, 5777].