

OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO ATTEND THE AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON DC  
March 24-26, 2019

Hanukkah is a time of miracles, but it is also a time that teaches us the importance of self-determination, self-defense, and the dangers of religious fanaticism. While we at Temple Sinai have a wide range of opinions concerning the decisions of the current Israeli government, we do support the legitimacy and importance of a safe and secure State of Israel. In a world where too many demonize Israelis, delegitimize Israel, and apply a double-standard to the Jewish state through movements like the "BDS" (boycott, divest, and sanction), it is more important than ever that we learn how to support Israel here in the US and particularly in the halls of Congress.

This year, we have gotten a generous donation that enables us to take six young people (high school or college age), all expenses paid, to the **AIPAC Policy Conference March 24-26 in Washington DC!** I am also arranging sessions with the Religious Action Center, the social justice arm of Reform Judaism. The **AIPAC Policy Conference is the largest, most diverse, and the most influential gathering of America's pro-Israel community.** Over three powerful days, you will experience demonstrations of groundbreaking Israeli innovations, keynote speeches by American and Israeli leaders, and choose from hundreds of high-level educational sessions. Perhaps most importantly, we will meet with our members of Congress and ask for their support.

Who Attends?

- More than 275 synagogue delegations
- More than 18,000 pro-Israel Americans
- Liberals, Conservatives, Centrists, Jews, and non-Jews
- More than two-thirds of Congress
- More than 3,600 students from more than 630 campuses

If you have a teenager or college student who would like to have please let me know. If you are a congregant interested in going, it would be great to have a contingent from Temple Sinai. Just call 617-399-2562 to register by phone or go online to [www.policyconference.org](http://www.policyconference.org). **The early-bird discounted rate expires December 7, 2018.** And it is fully refundable until January 18<sup>th</sup> if your plans change.

If you want to talk more about this, I'm here. I don't always agree with AIPAC's approach, but I am very grateful for the work it has done and continues to do to promote a strong alliance between the US and Israel. These conferences are empowering, informative, and inspiring. I hope your young person will consider joining us!

May a new light shine on Zion.

Rabbi Edleson