



Jewish Insider's Daily Kickoff: February 12, 2018

February 12, 2018

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UMV: 3,169,576

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Jewish Insider's Jacob Kornbluh asked several New York Democrats, who attended the JCRC breakfast, if they are worried about a decline in support for Israel among progressive Democrats and whether it was appropriate for the vast majority of Democrats to remain seated while the rest of the chamber gave Trump a standing ovation for his Jerusalem decision at the State of the Union?

Rep. Tom Suozzi: “I am constantly working on trying to address that issue. We need to change the conversation so that Democrats recognize the Jews have been oppressed - because a lot of times, Democrats want to emphasize with people they feel are oppressed and there’s been a movement to try and portray the Palestinians as being oppressed, but in reality, it’s the Jews that have been oppressed. Democrats, especially those from a minority background, have to be educated about the oppression Jews have felt and have been subjected to for literally thousands of years so that people recognize that Israel is our best friend, they share our values, they support democracy, rule of law, and do everything we would want any country to ever do.”

--Suozzi on SOTU: “That was not about Jerusalem and that was not about Israel. It was all about Trump. A lot of things that Trump said in his speech are things that many Democrats would agree with. The problem is who is the messenger. And it’s hard to separate the message from the messenger.”

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney: “Support is not dropping among this Democrat. No, I don’t think it’s dropping, nor should it, certainly not among the Democrats I serve with. I think it’s fair to worry about the rise of anti-Semitism on both the left and the right. We’ve certainly seen it on the right in place like Charlottesville, but we also see it on the left with the BDS movement. Both parties need to stand tall, support Israel and fight anti-Semitism wherever it appears.” On SOTU: “I wouldn't read too much into the State of the Union theatrics. It’s more show than substance.”

Rep. Jerry Nadler: “There’s a long-term worrying trend, and you have to distinguish between Democratic public officials and people who say they are registered Democrats. Democratic public officials, almost entirely, remain very supportive of Israel. What worries me is 15 years

from now - people who are in college and graduate school will in 15 years from now maybe be in public office and what their attitude is going to be. One doesn't know. But a continued education effort, there's no substitute for that."

"Democrats were sitting when Trump spoke about almost everything. I don't think most people study who is standing and who is sitting down at what point in the State of the Union address. I don't think that has any impact whatsoever on anything."

Rep. Eliot Engel: "I didn't sit. I can only speak for myself. I stood up and applauded, and many Democrats did."

+++

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Schumer at @JCRCNY breakfast: "One of the great things I am worried about - as a defender of Israel my whole life - is that support for Israel is not as strong as it once was."



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Josh Mehlman
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- Chairman of Flatbush Jewish Community Coalition (@FlatbushJCC), Political Advocacy.

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Bronx born/Brooklyn raised, investor, activist & host of 🎧'Community Matters' radio program. Saturday nights 10pm on WSNR 620am in NYC 📻 <http://radio620am.com>
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