

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0004

Anti boycott, divestment and sanction resolution.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Byrd

A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION recognizing boycott, divestment and
 2 sanction methods against Israel and other World Trade
 3 Organization trading partners as unsanctioned practices
 4 that discriminate based on national origin and discouraging
 5 the State of Wyoming from entering into a contract with or
 6 investing in a company participating in boycott, divestment
 7 and sanction methods.

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9 WHEREAS, boycott, divestment and sanction (BDS) methods
 10 mislead and manipulate customary legal and political
 11 procedures to encourage companies, institutions and
 12 governments to change their policies and thereby erode
 13 support for Israel and other World Trade Organization
 14 trading partners; and

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1 WHEREAS, boycotts of entities and individuals of specific
2 countries often amount to discrimination based on
3 ethnicity, religion, race and nationality, which directly
4 contradicts the public policy of the state of Wyoming; and

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6 WHEREAS, ignoring discriminatory practices and boycotts by
7 companies doing business with the State of Wyoming would
8 consequently make the state a de facto partner in these
9 discriminatory practices and boycotts; and

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11 WHEREAS, efforts to inflict economic harm upon the State of
12 Wyoming trading partners materially weakens the State of
13 Wyoming ability to conduct trade and harms vital economic
14 interests of the state; and

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16 WHEREAS, the important economic benefits the State of
17 Wyoming receives from its international trade with Israel
18 and other World Trade Organization trading partners are
19 materially harmed by the promotion of efforts to boycott
20 and otherwise discriminate solely on the basis of
21 discriminatory criteria against entities and individuals in
22 countries with whom states conduct business; and

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1 WHEREAS, the use of falsehoods and distortions to slander
2 Israel's and other World Trade Organization trading
3 partners' citizens and governments ultimately delegitimizes
4 the freedoms and rights that they truly stand for and
5 defend; and

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7 WHEREAS, the BDS movement seeks to avoid the fact that
8 Israel and other World Trade Organization trading partners
9 are states fully recognized under international law. In
10 misrepresenting concepts of human rights and international
11 law the BDS movement actively harms its own integrity and
12 legitimacy; and

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14 WHEREAS, in addition to harms against Israel and other
15 World Trade Organization trading partners, thousands of
16 Palestinian-Arabs have lost jobs and economic opportunity
17 as a result of BDS methods because of the pressure the
18 movement places upon their employers and business partners;
19 and

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21 WHEREAS, the BDS movement damages the important goal of
22 promoting societal peace between Palestinian-Arabs and

1 Israelis by working against normalization, economic
2 cooperation and shared opportunity; and

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4 WHEREAS, the BDS movement actively encourages intransigence
5 and the rejection of peace negotiations by the Palestinian-
6 Arab government, in favor of the held out hope that Israel
7 and other international trading partners can be harmed to
8 such an extent that gains would be made without the
9 offering of peace.

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11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
12 LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

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14 **Section 1.** That the State of Wyoming emphatically
15 rejects boycotts, divestment and sanctions based on
16 national origin and interferences with foreign trade
17 policy.

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19 **Section 2.** That State of Wyoming discourages
20 politically motivated, national origin-based discrimination
21 actions to boycott, divest from or sanction Israel and
22 other World Trade Organization trading partners.

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1 **Section 3.** That agencies of the State of Wyoming make
2 note of a company's participation in or compliance with
3 unsanctioned boycotts, divestment from or sanctions against
4 Israel or other World Trade Organization trading partners
5 for consideration when authorized to award grants and
6 contracts and to invest.

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8 **Section 4.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
9 transmit copies of this resolution to the Governor, State
10 Treasurer, Department of Administration and Information and
11 the head of each state agency and department.

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(END)