

1 SJR6
2 172442-5
3 By Senator Orr
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 02-FEB-16

1 SJR6

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4 ENROLLED, SJR6,

5 DENOUNCING THE BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, AND SANCTIONS
6 (BDS) MOVEMENT.

7
8 WHEREAS, The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions
9 (BDS) Movement is a global campaign that calls for boycott,
10 divestment, and sanctions against Israel; and

11 WHEREAS, Alabama and Israel share a commitment to
12 deeply-held common values from the history of each shaped
13 greatly through the influence of Biblical faith, in addition
14 to many nationally shared values as the only democratic ally
15 of the United States in the Middle East; and

16 WHEREAS, Alabama recognizes and support Israel's
17 right to exist as a Jewish State; and

18 WHEREAS, in the midst of World War II, when the axis
19 powers were not only waging world war against America and
20 Europe, but also seeking the mass murder and systematic
21 extermination of the Jewish people, Alabama led the nation in
22 an official call for the establishment of the Jewish state and
23 homeland in Act 144 (SJR4), 1943 Regular Session, a unanimous
24 joint resolution signed by the Governor on June 10, 1943; and

1 WHEREAS, the resurgence of global anti-Semitism is
2 currently at its highest point since the end of World War II;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, anti-Semitic and anti-Israel rhetoric is
5 growing louder and bolder with increasing international
6 hostility toward Israel and the Jewish people, including
7 international leaders publicly calling the Holocaust a myth,
8 stating their intent to wipe Israel off the map and denying
9 any historical Jewish connection to the Temple Mount,
10 Jerusalem, or the Holy Land; and

11 WHEREAS, the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions
12 (BDS) Movement seeks to further isolate and delegitimize
13 Israel and Jewish people worldwide in an effort to cripple
14 Israel through economic, cultural, and political pressure; and

15 WHEREAS, many founders and leaders of the
16 international Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS)
17 movement deny Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state and
18 even advocate for the elimination of the Jewish state; and

19 WHEREAS, verbal attacks against the Jewish people
20 and the demonizing of Israel and supporters of Israel foster
21 intimidation and promotes violence, not only globally, but
22 also in the State of Alabama; and

23 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama is concerned by
24 anti-Israel activities in this state and other communities

1 nationwide within certain university campuses, academic and
2 professional associations, and the cultural sector; and

3 WHEREAS, attempts to delegitimize Israel's existence
4 through an international campaign of Boycott, Divestment, and
5 Sanctions (BDS) is increasingly promoted on U.S. college and
6 university campuses; and

7 WHEREAS, the dramatic increase in Boycott,
8 Divestment, and Sanctions Movement activities on college
9 campuses around the country has resulted in increased
10 animosity, intimidation, and violence on university campuses;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, calls for academic boycotts against Israeli
13 academic institutions have been condemned by many of our
14 nation's largest academic associations, over 250 university
15 presidents, and leading scholars as a violation of the bedrock
16 principle of academic freedom; and

17 WHEREAS, Alabama's elected representatives who
18 defend the inalienable right to free speech understand that
19 the goals and activities of the Boycott, Divestment, and
20 Sanctions Movement in this state are harmful to the State's
21 relationships with Alabama's Jewish citizens, our friend and
22 ally Israel and have a deleterious impact on the academic and
23 educational environment; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
25 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we unequivocally denounce and

1 reject the international Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions
2 Movement and any furtherance of this movement in this state.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature of the
4 State of Alabama rejects any activities that contribute
5 directly or indirectly to the delegitimization of the
6 sovereignty of Israel as a Jewish State including, but not
7 limited to, promotion of economic, cultural, and academic
8 boycotts against Israel.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature of the
10 State of Alabama considers the international BDS Movement and
11 its agenda inherently antithetical and deeply damaging to the
12 causes of peace, justice, equality, democracy, and human
13 rights for all peoples in the Middle East.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature of the
15 State of Alabama reaffirms its support for the State of Israel
16 as a Jewish State, recognizes that the Jewish people are
17 indigenous to the land of Israel, condemns all attacks on the
18 people of Israel, supports Israel's right to engage in lawful
19 acts of self-defense, opposes all attempts to economically and
20 politically isolate Israel within the international arena, and
21 opposes efforts to assault the legitimacy of Israel as the
22 sovereign homeland of the Jewish people.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is directed that a
24 copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the
25 United States, to the Alabama Delegation to the United States

1 Congress, to the Governors of all the United States of
2 America, and to the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for
3 transmission to all the proper authorities in the State of
4 Israel.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR6
Senate 02-FEB-16
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 09-FEB-16

By: Senator Orr