

HR 1001

2016

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution condemning the Boycott, Divestment, and
3 Sanctions (BDS) movement and the increasing incidents
4 of anti-Semitism.

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6 WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Florida have long
7 opposed bigotry, oppression, discrimination, and injustice as a
8 matter of public policy, and

9 WHEREAS, Florida and Israel have enjoyed a long history of
10 friendship and are great allies in support of each other's
11 interests, and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Israel, the only democracy in the
13 Middle East, is the greatest friend and ally of the United
14 States in that region, and

15 WHEREAS, the elected representatives of the state recognize
16 the importance of expressing Florida's unwavering support of the
17 Jewish people and the State of Israel's right to exist and right
18 to self-defense, and

19 WHEREAS, there are increasing incidents of anti-Semitism
20 throughout the world, including in the United States and in
21 Florida, reflected in official hate crime statistics, and

22 WHEREAS, the international Boycott, Divestment, and
23 Sanctions (BDS) movement is one of the main vehicles for
24 spreading anti-Semitic perspectives and advocating the
25 elimination of the Jewish State, and

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26 WHEREAS, activities promoting Boycott, Divestment, and
27 Sanctions against Israel have increased in the State of Florida,
28 including on university campuses and in other Florida
29 communities, and contribute to the promotion of anti-Semitic and
30 anti-Zionist propaganda, and

31 WHEREAS, the increase in BDS campaign activities on college
32 campuses around the country has resulted in increased
33 confrontation, intimidation, and discrimination against Jewish
34 students, and

35 WHEREAS, leaders of the BDS movement express that their
36 goal is to eliminate Israel as the national home of the Jewish
37 people, and

38 WHEREAS, the BDS campaign's call for academic and cultural
39 boycotts has been condemned by many of our nation's largest
40 academic associations, more than 250 university presidents, and
41 many other leading scholars as a violation of the bedrock
42 principle of academic freedom, NOW, THEREFORE,

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44 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
45 Florida:

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47 That the Florida House of Representatives condemns the
48 international Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement
49 against the State of Israel and calls upon its governmental
50 institutions to denounce hatred and discrimination whenever they
51 appear.

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52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be
53 presented to the President of the United States, the President
54 and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk
55 of the United States House of Representatives, and the Israeli
56 Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper
57 authorities of the State of Israel as a tangible token of the
58 sentiments expressed herein.