

As Introduced

132nd General Assembly

Regular Session

2017-2018

H. C. R. No. 10

Representatives Thompson, Greenspan

**Cosponsors: Representatives Antani, Faber, Keller, Goodman, Kick, Becker,
Leland, Riedel, Seitz, Ginter, Wiggam, Romanchuk, Dever, Hood, Patmon,
Roegner, Schuring, Lipps, McColley, Johnson, Lanese, Sprague, Zeltwanger,
Schaffer, Householder, Conditt**

A C O N C U R R E N T R E S O L U T I O N

To condemn the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions 1
movement and increasing incidents of anti-Semitism. 2

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):

WHEREAS, The citizens of the State of Ohio have a history 3
of standing against bigotry, oppression, discrimination, and 4
injustice; and 5

WHEREAS, Ohio and Israel have a long history of friendship 6
and are great allies in support of each other's interests; and 7

WHEREAS, The State of Israel, the only democracy in the 8
Middle East, is the greatest friend and ally of the United 9
States in the Middle East; and 10

WHEREAS, Ohio is committed to increasing the ties and 11
interactions in business, government, the arts, culture, and 12
education between the State of Ohio and the State of Israel, 13
further strengthening the historic ties between our State and 14

that country; and 15

WHEREAS, Ties between Ohio's and Israel's academic, 16
research, business, and nonprofit communities are both robust 17
and longstanding; and 18

WHEREAS, The elected representatives of Ohio recognize the 19
importance of expressing their unabridged support for the Jewish 20
people and the State of Israel's right to exist and thrive, and 21
their unabridged support for Israel's right of self-defense; and 22

WHEREAS, There are increasing incidents of anti-Semitism 23
around the world, including across the United States and in 24
Ohio, including desecration of Jewish religious sites; and 25

WHEREAS, The international Boycott, Divestment, and 26
Sanctions movement is one of the main vehicles for legitimizing 27
anti-Semitism on campus and advocating the elimination of the 28
Jewish State; and 29

WHEREAS, Anti-Israel activities and activities promoting 30
the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement against Israel 31
are widespread in the State of Ohio, including on several 32
university campuses and in other Ohio communities, and 33
contribute to anti-Semitic and anti-Zionistic propaganda and 34
threats to both American and Israeli Jewish students, and result 35
in deliberate interference with the learning environment of all 36
students; and 37

WHEREAS, The dramatic increase in Boycott, Divestment, and 38
Sanctions campaign activities on college campuses around the 39
country has resulted in increased animosity and intimidation 40
against Jewish students, negatively impacting student 41
programming of vital importance to all American students related 42
to the State of Israel and politics in the Middle East; and 43

WHEREAS, Leaders of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions 44
movement say their goal is to eliminate Israel as the home of 45

the Jewish people, and signs and messaging at anti-Israel 46
rallies have adopted the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions 47
movement's theme slogan, "Palestine forever, Israel Never Ever" 48
meaning that the State of Israel would cease to exist, falsely 49
denying the Jewish people's and Israel's historical connection 50
to its ancient home in the Land of Israel, including the present 51
day State of Israel, and Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria, which 52
were the heartland of the ancient nations of Israel and Judah; 53
and 54

WHEREAS, Ohio's elected representatives who defend the 55
inalienable right to free speech understand that the goals and 56
activities of Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions campaigns in 57
Ohio are harmful to the State's relationships with Ohio's Jewish 58
citizens, with Ohio's non-Jewish citizens who support the State 59
of Israel and the Jewish people, and with the Jewish homeland, 60
Israel, and have a deleterious impact on the educational 61
environment; and 62

WHEREAS, The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions campaign's 63
call for academic boycotts has been condemned by many of our 64
nation's largest academic associations, over two hundred fifty 65
university presidents, and many other leading scholars as a 66
violation of the bedrock principle of academic freedom; now 67
therefore be it 68

RESOLVED, That the members of the General Assembly condemn 69
the international Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement 70
and its activities in Ohio for legitimizing anti-Semitism and 71
for seeking to undermine the Jewish people's right to self- 72
determination, which they are fulfilling in the State of Israel; 73
and be it further 74

RESOLVED, That the members of the General Assembly condemn 75
activities that contribute directly or indirectly to the denial, 76
violation, or delegitimization of any people's academic freedom, 77

including, but not limited to, promotion of academic boycotts by 78
the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement against Israel; 79
and be it further 80

RESOLVED, That the members of the General Assembly consider 81
the international Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement 82
and its agenda inherently antithetical and deeply damaging to 83
the causes of peace, justice, equality, democracy, and human 84
rights for all peoples in the Middle East and in the United 85
States; and be it further 86

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 132nd General 87
Assembly of the State of Ohio, reaffirm our support for the 88
State of Israel, recognize that the Jewish people are indigenous 89
to the land of Israel, condemn all attacks on the people of 90
Israel, support Israel's right to engage in lawful acts of self- 91
defense, and oppose all attempts to deny the legitimacy of 92
Israel as a sovereign state; and be it further 93

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 132nd General 94
Assembly of the State of Ohio, reaffirm our position that the 95
trustees, administrators, and educators at all levels in our 96
universities in Ohio, must take an active stand against all 97
anti-Semitic actions and intimidation taken against Jewish 98
students on their campuses, whereby all students may feel safe, 99
and be safe, from harm due to these pernicious activities; and 100
be it further 101

RESOLVED, That the members of the General Assembly 102
encourage and support the exercise of free speech and civil 103
debate, particularly on college campuses, and further encourage 104
university and college administrations to curb any impediments 105
to free speech and any abridgment of free speech on campus by 106
any individuals or groups, and urge them to take disciplinary 107
action against all students, faculty, and administrators who 108
engage in actions that abridge free speech on campus in 109

violation of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the 110
United States; and be it further 111

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 112
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 113
President of the United States, the Speaker and Clerk of the 114
United States House of Representatives, the President and 115
Secretary of the United States Senate, the Chancellor of Higher 116
Education and each of the nine members of the Ohio Board of 117
Regents, the provosts and chairpersons of the boards of trustees 118
of all Ohio public and private colleges and universities, and 119
the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the 120
proper authorities in the State of Israel. 121