
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1018 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, TOEPEL, JAMES, GREINER, SCHWEYER,
MILLARD, READSHAW, O'BRIEN, METZGAR, BARRAR, KAUFFMAN,
SIMMONS, GROVE, RAPP, GABLER, McNEILL, COHEN, ZIMMERMAN,
FRANKEL, DeLUCA, BRIGGS, MURT, BRADFORD, SABATINA, O'NEILL,
EVERETT, PETRI, RADER, CARROLL, KORTZ, REESE, SAYLOR,
HEFFLEY, MILNE, M. DALEY, BARBIN, WHEELAND, DUSH AND
GALLOWAY, MAY 18, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 18, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," prohibiting funding to an institution
6 of higher education that engages in a boycott against or
7 divestment from Israel.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
11 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding an
12 article to read:

13 ARTICLE XX-H

14 BAR TO BOYCOTT AGAINST OR

15 DIVESTMENT FROM ISRAEL

16 Section 2001-H. Findings.

17 The General Assembly finds as follows:

18 (1) Israel is America's dependable, democratic ally in

1 the Middle East, an area of paramount strategic importance to
2 the United States.

3 (2) It is in the interest of the United States and the
4 Commonwealth to stand with Israel by promoting trade and
5 commercial activities with Israel and its citizens and by
6 discouraging policies that contravene that interest.

7 Section 2002-H. Definitions.

8 The following words and phrases when used in this article
9 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
10 context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Boycott against or divestment from Israel." Actions that
12 are politically motivated and are intended to penalize Israel or
13 otherwise limit commercial activities.

14 "Commercial activities." Owning or controlling property or
15 assets located in, having employees or facilities located in,
16 providing goods or services to, having distribution agreements
17 with, issuing credit or loans to, purchasing bonds or commercial
18 paper issued by, investing in or having equity ties to or with
19 Israel or any company or person domiciled in Israel.

20 "Company." Any sole proprietorship, organization,
21 association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited
22 partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability
23 company or other entity or business association.

24 "Institution of higher education." A postsecondary
25 educational institution in this Commonwealth.

26 "Israel." The State of Israel.

27 Section 2003-H. Prohibition.

28 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commonwealth
29 may not provide funding of any kind to an institution of higher
30 education that engages in a boycott against or divestment from

1 Israel.

2 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.