
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 146 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, RYAN, HARKINS, ROTHMAN, READSHAW, STEPHENS,
BERNSTINE, PYLE, SCHLOSSBERG, MARKOSEK, FREEMAN, KAUFFMAN,
TOEPEL, RAPP, MENTZER, SOLOMON, B. MILLER, MACKENZIE,
BOROWICZ, MILLARD, ZIMMERMAN, PICKETT, MURT AND HERSHEY,
MARCH 13, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 13, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Reaffirming support for the State of Israel and condemning the
2 Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement.

3 WHEREAS, Antisemitism continues to rear its ugly head in the
4 western world; and

5 WHEREAS, Antisemitism manifested itself locally in the tragic
6 and horrifying terrorist attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in
7 the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh on October 27,
8 2018; and

9 WHEREAS, Antisemitism is growing within the United States;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The New York Times reported that in 2018 half of all
12 hate crimes within New York City were against the city's Jewish
13 population; and

14 WHEREAS, The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement
15 has falsely labeled the State of Israel an "apartheid state";

16 and

1 WHEREAS, Act 163 of 2016, which amends the Commonwealth
2 Procurement Code, prohibits the Commonwealth from contracting
3 with any company or organization that engages in an economic
4 boycott against Israel, making Pennsylvania the 14th state to
5 pass anti-BDS movement legislation; and

6 WHEREAS, Act 163 asserts that "Israel is America's
7 dependable, democratic ally in the Middle East, an area of
8 paramount strategic importance to the United States" and that
9 "it is in the interest of the United States and the Commonwealth
10 to stand with Israel and other countries by promoting trade and
11 commercial activities and to discourage policies that disregard
12 that interest"; and

13 WHEREAS, The BDS movement would destabilize and threaten a
14 United States ally where more than 40% of the world's Jewish
15 population lives; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
17 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania reaffirm support for the State of
18 Israel and condemn the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions
19 movement; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives condemn
21 antisemitism in all of its ugly forms on both the right and the
22 left; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives find the Boycott,
24 Divestment and Sanctions movement to be an antisemitic political
25 movement; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge each state
27 in the United States to adopt legislation modeled after Act 163;
28 and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives join with the
30 Wolf administration and urge each state and the Federal

1 Government to develop policies and procedures to safeguard
2 institutions in order to prevent and address the growing number
3 of attacks on members of the Jewish community.