



Resolution to Condemn the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Activity in Hawai'i Against Israel

Whereas the International Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement is one of the main vehicles for spreading propaganda advocating for the elimination of the Jewish State of Israel;

Whereas the BDS movement has an active presence on our Hawai'i campuses and includes faculty members, academic departments, and several advocate organizations that utilize classroom podiums to promote anti-Israel content that infects the thinking of future generations thus contributing to increased intimidation and aggression against the Jewish People;

Whereas the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of Hawai'i became the first academic association in the West to officially endorse support for the academic boycott of Israel on October 21, 2013, while many of our nation's largest academic associations, over 250 university presidents, and many other leading scholars have condemned the BDS campaign's call for academic boycotts as a violation of academic freedom;

Whereas Leila Khaled of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a terrorist organization blacklisted by the U.S., has been invited and welcomed to our Islands through educational programs in our Hawai'i Universities to share her destructive views which undermine dialogue, economic cooperation, and political reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians;

Whereas the State of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, offers freedom and hope for all citizens, regardless of race, religion, gender, or creed, and is the greatest friend and ally of the United States in the region;

Whereas Hawai'i and Israel have a history of friendship and are great allies in support of each other's interest and democratic values;

Whereas in August 2014, the executive director of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission, William Hoshijo, affirmed that there is no place for anti-Semitism or

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other discrimination in Hawai'i;

Whereas there is a growing trend of U.S. states disavowing the BDS movement and, as of 2021, thirty-two states have passed bills and executive orders designed to discourage boycotts of Israel;

Whereas in response to rising anti-Semitism worldwide, the U.S. Congress passed the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act (Public Law 108-332) which requires the U.S. Department of State to document and combat acts of anti-Semitism globally; and

Whereas the global spread of anti-Jewish speech and violence represents an attack on our commitment to Israel's security, a cornerstone of U.S. policy in the Middle East since Israel's creation on May 14, 1948; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Hawai'i Republican Party:

1. urges Hawai'i's State Legislators to condemn the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Movement;
2. urges Hawai'i's State Legislators to reaffirm their support for the State of Israel;
3. urges Hawai'i's State Legislators to not allow any state funds to be used to fund any BDS activities against Israel;
4. urges Hawai'i State Legislators to pass legislation that does not allow for the investment of public pension funds in any companies that boycott Israel;
5. urges Hawai'i State Legislators to pass legislation to not contract with any companies that refuse to buy products from Israel or sell products to Israel; and
6. will forward copies of this resolution to all Hawai'i state legislators and the Governor.