RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, over recent years, some anti-Israel activist groups have pushed for boycott, divestment, and sanctions against Israel; and

WHEREAS, the goal of these activists is to delegitimize the state of Israel, and if the BDS movement were to gain ground, it could cause significant economic damage to Israel and its trading partners or businesses with ties to the country; and

WHEREAS, the BDS movement is often criticized as anti-Semitic, and activists linked to this movement have engaged in anti-Semitic behavior; and

WHEREAS, most Americans are staunchly pro-Israel, and do not support the efforts of activists who are associated with the BDS agenda; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments should be free to disassociate their pensions from entities that support BDS, and to end contracts with companies that are supportive of the BDS effort; and

WHEREAS, the Combatting BDS Act of 2016, bipartisan legislation that has been recently introduced in the House of Representatives and in the Senate, would ensure that local and state governments have the right to stand against BDS, and not invest in entities that support this harmful agenda;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015 - 2016 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for the Combatting BDS Act of 2016, which would protect state and local governments' rights to disassociate pensions and contracts from entities that boycott, divest from, or sanction Israel.

PRESENTED BY: _____
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

jwd

SECONDED BY: _____

ORIGINAL

FEB 12 2016