

RESOLUTION

Item 23 **SUBSTITUTE**

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, in 2014, the Governor, with the support of the State Legislature, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Prime Minister of Israel for strategic partnerships for joint innovation, exchanges, and cooperation between California and Israel; and

WHEREAS, partnerships between California and Israel have supported innovation across California, Israel, and the rest of the United States in a wide variety of areas including development, clean technology, water conservation, cybersecurity, health, biotechnology, agricultural technology, and academia; and

WHEREAS, furthermore, the MOU envisioned these partnerships to encourage mutual cooperation and understanding that could be leveraged to collaborate on fostering peace and democracy in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, however, boycotts of Israel by companies doing business in California undermine cultural, academic, and economic cooperation between California and Israel; and

WHEREAS, AB 2844 (Bloom) as amended on March 28, 2016, or the California Combating the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions of Israel Act of 2016, would prohibit a public entity from entering into a contract, valued at \$10,000 or more, on or after January 1, 2017, to acquire or dispose of goods, services, information, technology, or for construction, if the contracting company is boycotting Israel; and


WHEREAS, AB 2844 as amended on March 28, 2016 would also require the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to recommend policies incentivizing State and Israel collaboration on trade, business, and academia, such as tax credits, partnership subsidies, innovative grant programs, job creation initiatives, and contracting preferences; and



WHEREAS, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that AB 2844 as amended on March 28, 2016 includes mandated costs, local agencies and school districts will be reimbursed, pursuant to Section 17500 of Division 4 or Title 2 of the Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the City will be a beneficiary of the increased partnerships between the State and Israel, particularly the expansion of the two-way trade relations already worth over \$4 billion in 2013; and

WHEREAS, subsequent amendments to the bill have significantly changed the substance of AB 2844 (Bloom) as amended on March 28, 2016;

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 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 2844 (Bloom), IF AMENDED to its prior version, as amended on March 28, 2016, which would prohibit a public entity from entering into a contract, valued at \$10,000 or more, with a company that is boycotting Israel.

PRESENTED BY: 
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: 


JUN 14 2016

