

Alabama-Israel Task Force

Remembering Our Past, Shaping Our Future

LEGACY OF HONOR • MORAL RESPONSIBILITY • GENERATIONAL COMMITMENT • VITAL LEADERSHIP

The Vision - Bridges and Brotherhood

Mission - The Alabama-Israel Task Force (AITF) seeks to provide a **bridge** and catalyst for **broader** cooperative efforts and help cultivate an even **stronger** and expanding state-to-state **relationship** between Alabama and Israel for the **mutual benefit** of their people.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alabama Passes Unanimous Joint Resolution Denouncing BDS Movement and Affirming Support for Israel

February 16, 2016 (Montgomery, AL) - In 1943, in the midst of World War II, when the axis powers were not only waging world war against America and Europe, but also seeking the mass murder and systematic extermination of the Jewish people, Alabama led the nation in an official call for the establishment of the Jewish state and homeland in Act 144, SJR 4, 1943 Regular Session, a unanimous joint resolution signed by the Governor June 10, 1943.

Alabama has a long history and very special relationship with the state of Israel, so it is very appropriate for Alabama to carry on that legacy with a strong response to the BDS movement. The Alabama legislature passed a **unanimous joint resolution** (Act 2, SJR 6, 2016 Regular Session) **denouncing the BDS Movement and affirming support for the state of Israel** sending a strong and clear message regarding where Alabama stands. This comes as U.S. and state-level reaction is growing across the nation both denouncing BDS and reaffirming we stand with our closest ally in the Middle East.

Alabama State Senator Arthur Orr from Decatur sponsored the joint resolution and said, "The BDS movement has targeted the Jewish state for economic and political sanctions and with a dramatic increase of BDS activity now also reaching U.S. college campuses, our position must be clear. Alabama sends a strong message with SJR 6 denouncing the BDS Movement and affirming we stand with our closest ally in the Middle East." Alabama House Speaker Pro Tem, Rep Victor Gaston of Mobile stated, "I am proud to have had a role in the House Rules Committee assisting with the now unanimous passing of this important Resolution. The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement has no place in the State of Alabama as it harms the United States' greatest ally and friend to Alabama, Israel."

Many across the state care deeply about the Alabama-Israel relationship and responded with gratitude and appreciation. John Buhler, Alabama-Israel Task Force Co-Chair, one of many who advocated for passage of the resolution commented, "We are deeply grateful for the leadership of Senator Orr, and Rep Gaston, and for the entire Alabama Legislature for the overwhelming bi-partisan support of this significant resolution."

Reference Resolution Text (PDF) - <http://www.aitf-web.org/doc/ACT2-SJR6-2016RS.pdf>

###

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

John Buhler or Laura King
Phone: (877) 770-9387
Email: info@AITF-Web.org
Web: www.AITF-Web.org