



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Bill Analysis

Cody Weisbrodt

### H.B. 476

131st General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Government Accountability and Oversight)

**Reps.** Schuring, Rosenberger, Strahorn, Amstutz, Boyce, Brown, Celebrezze, Cera, Derickson, Driehaus, Hayes, McClain, Slesnick, Sprague, Buchy

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Prohibits state agencies from entering into or renewing contracts with companies for certain supplies and services if the companies do not declare that they are not boycotting or disinvesting from Israel.
- Requires companies to include a term in contracts with state agencies declaring that the company is not boycotting or disinvesting in Israel.
- Requires companies to include a term in contracts with state agencies agreeing not to boycott or divest from Israel for the duration of the contract.
- Establishes that companies are boycotting Israel if they refuse to engage in business or commercial activity with the Israeli government, a company operating in Israel, or a company operating in territory controlled by Israel to protest the Israeli government.
- Establishes that companies are divesting from Israel if the company is withdrawing invested funds from the Israeli government or a company operating in or controlled by Israel to protest the Israeli government.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill prohibits state agencies from entering into or renewing current contracts for the acquisition or provision of supplies, equipment, or services, or contracts for construction services, with companies unless the company declares that they are not boycotting or divesting from Israel. In order to enter into or renew contracts with state agencies, companies must include this declaration in the contract with the agency.

Companies also must include a term agreeing not to boycott or divest from Israel in any agency contract for the duration of the contract.<sup>1</sup>

Under the bill, a company is boycotting Israel if the company refuses to conduct business or other commercial activities with the Israeli government, companies operating in Israel, or companies operating in territory controlled by Israel to protest the policies of the Israeli government. Similarly, a company is disinvesting from Israel if the company is withdrawing invested money from the Israeli government, companies operating in Israel, or companies operating in territory controlled by Israel to protest the policies of the Israeli government.<sup>2</sup>

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-24-16
Reported, H. Gov't Accountability & Oversight	05-18-16

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 9.75(B).

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 9.75(B).

