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One Hundred Fourteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.foreignaffairs.house.gov

September 1, 2016

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.
444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 134
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Governor Brown:

The California Assembly has taken an important step in safeguarding the U.S.-Israel economic relationship by passing the *California Combating the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions of Israel Act of 2016*. I urge you to sign this bill into law.

Our relationship with the State of Israel has a strong and important history. California collaborates with Israel on a range of issues, from tech to water management and far beyond. As you know, the Carlsbad Desalination Plant - the largest in the Western Hemisphere - would not have been possible without the participation of Israel's IDE Technologies.

As the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I introduced a resolution condemning the politically motivated acts of boycott, divestment from, and sanctions against Israel this bill seeks to curtail. The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction (BDS) campaign which singles out Israel to isolate it from the global economy only harms U.S. interests.

I am proud that California joins over a dozen other state legislatures which have enacted measures to confront this campaign. AB 2844 would require a person that submits a bid or proposal to a state agency in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars or more to certify that they do not have a policy against any sovereign nation or peoples recognized by the U.S., including the nation and people of Israel.

With this bill, the State of California follows the same logic federal legislation instituted decades ago. It has long been illegal for United States companies to cooperate with the ongoing Arab League boycott of Israeli goods.

I encourage you to sign this bill into law, ensuring the continued strong relationship between the United States and Israel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "E. Royce".

EDWARD R. ROYCE
Chairman