

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4 HOUSE

5 RESOLUTION 1063

 By: McBride and Echols

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution calling for the disposition of
10 certain public funds.

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12 WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma passed into law Enrolled
13 House Bill No. 3967 in 2020; and

14 WHEREAS, HB 3967 passed the House by a vote of 75-20, and
15 36-7 in the Senate; and

16 WHEREAS, with the signature of Governor Stitt, Oklahoma
17 became the 30th state to pass bipartisan laws against the
18 bigoted movement to boycott Israel; and

19 WHEREAS, HB 3967 declared that Israel is a prominent trading
20 partner of the State of Oklahoma and that the state and those
21 companies that do business by and through the state, in the
22 interest of the state's economic policy, should not boycott
23 trade with Israel; and

1 WHEREAS, companies that refuse to deal with United States
2 trade partners such as Israel make discriminatory decisions on
3 the basis of national origin that impair those companies'
4 commercial soundness; and

5 WHEREAS, Israel is known for its dynamic and innovative
6 approach in many business sectors, and a company's decision to
7 discriminate against persons or entities doing business in
8 Israel or in territories controlled by Israel is an unsound
9 business practice making the company an unduly risky contracting
10 partner; and

11 WHEREAS, it is also the public policy of the United States,
12 as enshrined in several federal acts, including 50 U.S.C.,
13 Section 4607, to oppose such boycotts, and Congress has
14 concluded as a matter of national trade policy that cooperation
15 with Israel materially benefits United States companies and
16 improves American competitiveness; and

17 WHEREAS, under HB 3967, the state shall not enter into a
18 contract with a company unless the company submits a written
19 certification that the company is not currently engaged in a
20 boycott of goods or services from Israel that constitutes an
21 integral part of business conducted or sought to be conducted
22 with the state; and

23 WHEREAS, on July 19, 2021, following the passage of HB 3967,
24 Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream declared that it would no longer offer

1 | its products in Israel in protest of what it considered
2 | "Occupied Palestinian Territories"; and

3 | WHEREAS, Ben & Jerry's is a wholly-owned subsidiary of
4 | Unilever; and

5 | WHEREAS, Unilever has failed to disclose its violation of HB
6 | 3967 and numerous other matters related to its ownership of Ben
7 | & Jerry's Ice Cream and the consequences to Unilever
8 | shareholders of its decision to no longer offer its products in
9 | the "Occupied Palestinian Territories".

10 | NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
11 | REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA
12 | LEGISLATURE:

13 | THAT it is inconsistent with HB 3967 for Oklahoma to invest
14 | its funds, retirement or otherwise, in any company like Unilever
15 | that chooses not to conduct business with Israel, and
16 | consequently the State Treasurer and Comptroller shall divest
17 | the state and its retirement funds of all Unilever securities in
18 | a manner in their discretion.

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20 | DIRECT TO CALENDAR.
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