

Dear Governor Murphy:

The State of New Jersey, in their ongoing commitment to supporting Israel and maintaining the strong New Jersey-Israel relationship enacted PL 2016 Chapter 24 (the Act), a statutory prohibition of investments of the public employee retirement funds in companies boycotting Israel.

The Act provides that no assets of any pension or annuity fund under the jurisdiction of the Division of Investment in the Department of the Treasury, or its successor, shall be invested in any company that boycotts the goods, products, or businesses of Israel, boycotts those doing business with Israel, or boycotts companies operating in Israel or Israeli-controlled territory.

It has come to our attention that Ben and Jerry's, a wholly owned subsidiary of Unilever, has plans to remove its products and prohibit sales of its ice cream in the West Bank. These actions fall squarely within the prohibited activities defined by the Act.

Therefore, we are requesting that you direct the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Investment to conduct an immediate investigation into the State of New Jersey's investments in Unilever. Furthermore, should the New Jersey Division of Investment affirmatively identify any investments, we ask that the State Investment Council and the Director of the Division of Investment take appropriate and immediate action to sell, redeem, divest, or withdraw any investments held in violation of the Act and consistent with state law.

More than \$1.3 billion in goods and services are traded annually between New Jersey and Israel, and the two trading partners continue to look for and find new opportunities to enhance cooperation and initiatives of mutual economic benefit.

Boycotts, divestments, and sanctions place economic and political pressure on business entities, and other organizations and institutions to influence their behavior against Israel. It is fitting and appropriate that the State of New Jersey reaffirm its interest in viable trade and exchange with an ally of the United States and a vibrant economic partner of the State while demonstrating a swift response to those who discriminate against the Israeli people.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response to our request.

Sincerely,

Dov Ben-Shimon
Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ

Jason Shames
Jewish Federation of Northern NJ

Susan Antman
Jewish Federation in the Heart of NJ

Robin Wishnie
Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties

Jennifer Dubrow Weiss
Jewish Federation of Southern NJ