

Testimony in opposition to HB1124

Civil Actions - Nonprofit Organizations - Unauthorized Support of Israeli Settlement Activity (Not on Our Dime Act)

To: Hon. Luke Clippinger, Chair, Hon. Sandy Bartlett, Vice-chair and members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Jerry Kickenson

Date: March 4, 2024

I am writing in **opposition to House Bill 1124, Civil Actions - Nonprofit Organizations - Unauthorized Support of Israeli Settlement Activity (Not on Our Dime Act)**.

To be transparent, I am a Jewish American supporter of Israel, but strongly opposed to Israel's policies in the occupied territories. Yet I must oppose this bill for several reasons:

- The proposed "offense" is way too vague. What exactly does "knowingly engage in unauthorized support of Israeli settlement activity" mean? Will it take years of court rulings to clarify?
- The liable persons are amazingly broad: "a director, an officer, a partner, a trustee, a manager, or **any other agent**".
- A fixed minimum penalty of at least \$1 million, irrespective of the size of the nonprofit.

This bill, if passed, will just cause confusion and intimidation without materially helping Palestinians in the West Bank.

I respectfully urge you to reach an **unfavorable** report for HB1124.

Respectfully yours,

Jerry Kickenson

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