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Testimony on HB 1460
State Procurement - Prohibited Certifications - Boycotts of Foreign Countries
House Health & Government Operations Committee

Date: March 11, 2025

Position: SUPPORT

I write as a voting citizen in District 41 and as a member of a prominent Baltimore synagogue to urge you to **SUPPORT HB 1460**, which would forbid any procurement officer from requiring that a bidder not engage in a boycott of a foreign country and requiring that the bidder pledge not to engage in such a boycott. This is made necessary because Executive Order 01.01.2017.25 makes such demands of any state supplier or contractor.

Members of the Committee, this executive order is clearly a violation of free speech. Where does the Governor or the State of Maryland get the authority to place such requirements on businesses in Maryland? There is really not much more that needs to be said about the situation. The State should not be placing limits on the free speech of people who wish to provide services or materials to the State.

I urge you to give a **Favorable report on HB 1460.**

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