

The Honorable Chair
Delegate Melissa Wells
House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
142 Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Vice Chair
Delegate Kenneth Kerr

**RE: FAVORABLE - SUPPORT of House Bill 1382
State Procurement - Prohibited Certifications - Boycotts of Foreign
Countries**

To the Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and esteemed members of the
Government, Labor, and Elections Committee,

My name is Christina Lund, I am a resident Frederick County am
writing to name my support to HB 1382 the “State Procurement -
Prohibited Certifications - Boycotts of Foreign Countries” bill. This bill
undoes former Governor Hogan’s executive order that prevented state
contractors from participating in a boycott of Israel. The existing
executive order conflicts with the basic first amendment principle that
people have a right to engage in peaceful political action without being
coerced by the state. Executive Order 01.01.2017.25 was unpopular
when it was passed, and yet has remained in place for 9 years despite
a new governor, so legislative action is necessary to correct it.

The Boycott, Divest, and Sanctions (BDS) movement is one of the few
ways for people worldwide to support Palestinians and meaningfully
challenge Israeli apartheid and settler-colonialism. It is based on the
same peaceful tactics that worked against the apartheid regime in
South Africa, which were as moral and necessary then as they are now.
Maryland contractors should not have to choose between their morals
and their contracts.

For these reasons and many more, **I ask the Government, Labor, and
Elections Committee to give HB 1382 a favorable report.**

Thank you for your time,
Christina Lund
Frederick City
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