WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §5a-3-63

§5A-3-63. Prohibition on contracting with companies that boycott Israel.

(a) The Legislature finds that:

(1) The State of Israel is one of the United States' closest allies and international trading partners; and

(2) In recent years, the State of Israel and Israeli-owned businesses have been the target of boycotts that attempt to isolate Israel within the international community have served as a vehicle for spreading anti-Semitism and advocating for the elimination of the Jewish State of Israel.

(3) The State of West Virginia has an economic and a humanitarian obligation to denounce and reject the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement against Israel, and to prevent the state or any of its instrumentalities from contracting with companies that engage in the movement;

(b) *Definitions*. – For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Boycott of Israel" means engaging in actions that are intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or otherwise limit commercial relations with the State of Israel or companies based in the State of Israel or in territories controlled by the State of Israel.

(2) "Company" means a corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, organization, association, or any other business entity that has 10 or more employees and operates to earn a profit: *Provided*, That the term does not include a sole proprietorship.

(3) "Public entity" means the state of West Virginia, or any political subdivision thereof, and all spending units of state government including those otherwise excluded from applicability under §5A-3-1 of this code.

(c) Effective July 1, 2022, a public entity may not enter into a contract with a company for goods or services valued at $100,000 or more unless the contract includes a written certification that the company is not currently engaged in, and will not for the duration of the contract, engage in a boycott of Israel.

(d) Any contract that violates the requirements of this section shall be void as against public policy.

(e) The Director of the Purchasing Division is authorized to promulgate legislative rules, including emergency rules, to implement the provisions of this section.

WVLegislature