

ANNAPOLIS EVENTS

2/28 HB949 Hearing (BDS)

3/1 SB739 Hearing (BDS)

3/02 Non-Public School
Advocacy Day in Annapolis

4/10 Sine Die - Last Day of
2017 Legislative Session

BACK IN BALTIMORE

3/01 Auschwitz through the
Lens of the SS at Chizuk
Amuno

3/30 Trialogue Program at
Owings Mills JCC

4/23 Yom HaShoah
Holocaust Remembrance
Commemoration at Beth El

5/21 Trialogue Program at
Church on the Square

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Annapolis Update: Anti-BDS Edition

BALTIMORE JEWISH COUNCIL

Maryland General Assembly committees will hold public hearings this week on the legislation to fight the discriminatory economic boycott of Israel. The legislation – jointly supported by the Baltimore Jewish Council and the JCRC of Greater Washington – would enable Maryland to stand up for Israel and strengthen our state's substantial economic partnership with the only vibrant democracy in the Middle East.

About the Bill

The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement seeks to demonize Israel politically, economically and culturally, transforming the Jewish state into an international pariah, with its ultimate goal to destroy Israel as a Jewish democratic state. BDS supporters seek to remove Israel from the world of education, economics and international relations. Meanwhile, BDS supporters do nothing to encourage meaningful alliances with those dedicated to a two-state solution.

House Bill 949 and Senate Bill 739 would prevent Maryland's state retirement and pension system from making investments in companies that are participating in the discriminatory boycott of Israel, and prohibit such companies from securing procurement contracts with the state. The approach is similar to laws previously passed by Maryland related to companies doing business with Iran and Sudan. At least 16 other states have already passed similar laws, as a growing bipartisan number of governors and state legislatures are standing up for Israel's future.

Spotlight on the Sponsors

Thank you to the lead sponsors on the House and Senate bills – including Delegates Ben Kramer, Shelly Hettleman and Sandy Rosenberg, and Senator Bobby Zirkin – as well as the many other Democrats and Republicans from across the state who have signed on as co-sponsors.

Show Your Support!

Please join us for this week's committee hearings in Annapolis on Tuesday and Wednesday. If you haven't sent an email to your legislators urging them to oppose BDS by supporting HB949 and SB739, please visit <http://buff.ly/2kWnwfl> to do so.