EXECUTIVE ORDER #261

Relating to the Prohibition of Discriminatory Boycotts of Israel in State Contracting

WHEREAS, the State of Israel and Wisconsin enjoy a robust trading relationship, with Wisconsin exporting over $80 million annually to Israel and importing over $200 million annually from Israel; and

WHEREAS, boycotts based on religion, national origin, ethnicity, or residence are discriminatory; and

WHEREAS, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel serves to inflame conflict; and

WHEREAS, over 20 states have enacted laws or resolutions against the BDS campaign; and

WHEREAS, Israel is a firm and faithful friend of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SCOTT WALKER, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, do hereby order the following:

1. Consistent with existing Wisconsin nondiscrimination provisions of and regulations governing purchases under s. 16.71, Wis. Stats., agencies may not execute a contract with a business entity if that entity is engaging in a boycott of Israel. Further, agencies shall reserve the right to terminate any contract with a business entity that engages in a boycott of Israel during the term of the contract.

2. The Department of Administration, State Bureau of Procurement, shall incorporate an Israel nondiscrimination requirement into:

   (a) all agency solicitations issued under s. 16.75, Wis. Stats., and

   (b) the State’s Standard Terms and Conditions.

3. The Secretary of the Department of Administration shall oversee this order to ensure implementation as quickly and efficiently as practicable.
4. This order should not operate to modify any obligations of State agencies under State or federal law.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this twenty-seventh day of October in the year two thousand seventeen.

SCOTT WALKER  
Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State