

## RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR

July 22, 2021

Mr. Ash Williams Executive Director State Board of Administration of Florida 1801 Hermitage Boulevard, Suite 100 Tallahassee, Florida 32317

Dear Mr. Williams,

As you know, Florida has long had a strong relationship with the State of Israel. As a matter of law and principle, the State of Florida does not tolerate discrimination against the State of Israel or the Israeli people, including boycotts and divestments targeting Israel.

It has come to my attention that Ben & Jerry's has announced plans to remove its products and prohibit the sale of its ice cream in Judea and Samaria. These actions taken by Ben & Jerry's fall squarely within the prohibited activities defined by Section 215.4725(1)(a), Florida Statutes. Ben & Jerry's is a wholly owned subsidiary of Unilever, a publicly traded company in which Florida holds multiple investments.

Therefore, I am requesting the State Board of Administration (SBA) immediately place Ben & Jerry's and Unilever on the Continued Examination Companies that Boycott Israel List, and initiate the process to place Ben & Jerry's, and by extension Unilever, on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List. Please provide an update on the status of this process to me and the other Trustees as soon as possible.

Should the State Board of Administration affirmatively place Unilever and its corporate entities on the Scrutinized Companies List and these companies do not cease the boycott of Israel as required by Florida law, the Board must refrain from acquiring any and all Unilever assets consistent with the law.

These actions affirm the State of Florida's relationship with the State of Israel and our commitment to a swift response to those who discriminate against the Israeli people.

Sincerely,

Ron DeSantis Governor