

House Concurrent Resolution No. 49

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ELLINGTON.

2222H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, all forms of bigotry--anti-Semitism, Islamaphobia, racism, sexism, and
2 other hatred for people based on their religion, ethnicity, nationality, disability, or sexual
3 orientation--are intolerable and undermine the foundations upon which the United States of
4 America was founded and its modern aspirations to lead the global community of nations; and
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6 **WHEREAS**, all residents of Missouri and the United States have among their
7 constitutional rights the right to practice their own religion and to free speech, including the right
8 to boycott, and these rights are vital components of the democratic pantheon that is the First
9 Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and
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11 **WHEREAS**, boycotts have played a strategically significant and celebrated role in
12 United States history, utilized by individuals with grievances against government, such as the
13 colonial boycotts of British tea and the Montgomery bus boycott; and
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15 **WHEREAS**, criticism of a nation by individuals, including as a nonviolent citizens'
16 boycott, does not constitute bigotry against the citizens of that nation. Rather, the boycott of a
17 nation is an expression of encouraging the government of the nation to modify its policies and
18 practices to uphold the inalienable human rights of all people within its borders:
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20 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
21 Representatives of the One Hundredth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
22 concurring therein, hereby reaffirm their recognition that the government of Missouri is guided
23 by the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights, including the assertion that all
24 people have the constitutional right to boycott any entity when they have conscientious concerns
25 with the entity's policies or actions; and that the government of the State of Missouri shall not

26 punish individuals by denying them a state contract for exercising their constitutional right to
27 boycott; and

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29 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
30 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
31 governor.

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