

February 9, 2018

Sens. Cardin and Portman Condemn Anti-Israel U.N. Report

On February 1, U.S. Sens. Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Rob Portman (R-OH) issued a joint statement denouncing a recent U.N. Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner report that targeted companies that conduct business with Israel, but deferred listing any of them by name. The anti-Israel report includes detailed steps on its investigation of more than 200 companies, including 22 American companies, laying the groundwork to release a blacklist to boycott such companies in the future. “We strongly oppose the ongoing efforts to compile a blacklist of companies that do business in Israeli-controlled territories,” the senators wrote. In 2017, Sens. Cardin and Portman, along with Reps. Peter Roskam (R-IL) and Juan Vargas (D-CA) in the U.S. House of Representatives, spearheaded the Israel Anti-Boycott Act (H.R. 1697 and S. 720). This bipartisan legislation would combat the boycott of Israel in the international arena by expanding existing U.S. anti-boycott laws to international organizations like the United Nations and the European Union. “This bipartisan legislation protects U.S. companies from unsanctioned international boycotts and preserves the space for direct negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians.” The senator added that they “oppose all efforts by international organizations seeking to undermine prospects for resuming negotiations for a two-state solution between Israelis and Palestinians.”

Our Synagogue partners with AIPAC, America’s pro-Israel lobby, in educating our community on issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship. We encourage you to learn more by contacting AIPAC at synagogue@aipac.org or by visiting www.aipac.org.