House Resolution

A resolution condemning the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement and the increasing incidents of anti-Semitism.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Florida have long opposed bigotry, oppression, discrimination, and injustice as a matter of public policy, and

WHEREAS, Florida and Israel have enjoyed a long history of friendship and are great allies in support of each other's interests, and

WHEREAS, the State of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, is the greatest friend and ally of the United States in that region, and

WHEREAS, the elected representatives of the state recognize the importance of expressing Florida's unwavering support of the Jewish people and the State of Israel's right to exist and right to self-defense, and

WHEREAS, there are increasing incidents of anti-Semitism throughout the world, including in the United States and in Florida, reflected in official hate crime statistics, and

WHEREAS, the international Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement is one of the main vehicles for spreading anti-Semitic perspectives and advocating the elimination of the Jewish State, and
WHEREAS, activities promoting Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions against Israel have increased in the State of Florida, including on university campuses and in other Florida communities, and contribute to the promotion of anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist propaganda, and 
WHEREAS, the increase in BDS campaign activities on college campuses around the country has resulted in increased confrontation, intimidation, and discrimination against Jewish students, and 
WHEREAS, leaders of the BDS movement express that their goal is to eliminate Israel as the national home of the Jewish people, and 
WHEREAS, the BDS campaign's call for academic and cultural boycotts has been condemned by many of our nation's largest academic associations, more than 250 university presidents, and many other leading scholars as a violation of the bedrock principle of academic freedom, NOW, THEREFORE, 

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That the Florida House of Representatives condemns the international Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement against the State of Israel and calls upon its governmental institutions to denounce hatred and discrimination whenever they appear.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper authorities of the State of Israel as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.