

## STAND UP TO HATE, BIGOTRY AND DISCRIMINATION AND ENSURE A WELCOMING COMMONWEALTH FOR ALL

### **H.1685/S.1689: AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION IN STATE CONTRACTS**

Sponsored by Senator  
Cynthia Creem  
(D-Newton), and  
Representative Paul  
McMurtry (D-Dedham)  
and Steven Howitt  
(R-Seekonk)

Co-sponsored by 65 Reps  
and Senators

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## Prevent Taxpayer Funds from Subsidizing Discrimination

- ➔ This bipartisan bill harnesses the economic influence of our state to strengthen existing anti-discrimination laws and ensure that the state does not unwittingly use tax payer funds to subsidize discrimination.
- ➔ Under this bill, anyone seeking to do business with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts must affirm that they are in compliance with the Massachusetts Anti-Discrimination Laws, which prohibit discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations, based on someone's race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, gender identity or sexual orientation; second, that they will not refuse to do business with someone based solely on these same immutable traits. To put it simply, if you want to enjoy business with the state, don't discriminate.
- ➔ In the face of bigotry, delegitimization, and forces that seek to define and judge people based on who they are, rather than what they do, we stand up and say that this invidious discrimination has no place in Massachusetts. When this bill becomes law, the Commonwealth will continue to stand as a beacon of hope for all people looking to start a business, raise a family and pursue the American dream.
- ➔ This bill does not infringe on the constitutionally protected right to engage in free speech and does not impact the right to peacefully protest or criticize a foreign state. It merely prohibits economic warfare against people based solely on who they are.
- ➔ When acting as a market participant, the state is well within its rights to choose trading partners that act in accordance with Massachusetts law and policies including those prohibiting unfair targeting or discrimination of any kind. In context of the BDS movement, where both state and federal policy makers have specifically rejected campaigns to isolate, delegitimize and economically destroy Israel, targeting innocent Israeli business owners simply based on national origin is discrimination that should not be supported by the state.