



July 23, 2021

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1925

Dear Governor Hogan,

On behalf of Maryland's Jewish community, we thank you for your long standing support of Israel and opposition to the Boycott, Sanctions and Divestment (BDS) movement. As you said when you signed your Executive Order in 2017, "The goals of this movement run counter to the strong economic relationship that Maryland has sustained with our friends and partners in Israel." That [Executive Order](#) stands up against companies that seek to delegitimize the democratic State of Israel and negate the right of Israel to exist as a homeland for the Jewish people through discriminatory business practices.

With this Executive Order in mind, we ask you to direct the appropriate state agencies to initiate a review of Ben and Jerry's ice cream and its parent company Unilever. You may have seen news this week that Ben and Jerry's issued a [statement](#) declaring that the company will no longer do business in Israel's territories. We believe that this represents a BDS action, and if either company holds contracts with the State of Maryland, they are in violation of your Executive Order. We ask for a prompt and thorough review to take place, and we look forward to hearing the outcome.

Thank you for the consideration and your support of Maryland's Jewish community.

With Warm Regards,

Howard Libit
Executive Director
Baltimore Jewish Council

Ronald Halber
Executive Director
JCRC of Greater Washington