



“Resolution Repeal, concerning the Resolution Regarding International Divestment, Boycott, and Sanctions”

Proposed Motion: *Move to repeal the June 2014 AS Resolution Regarding International Divestment, Boycott, and Sanctions.*

Sponsor: Associated Students President, Annika Wolters

Persons of Contact: *Associated Students President, Annika Wolters*

Guest Speaker: *Former Associated Students Board members have been invited, including Mayra Guizar, Josie Ellison, Jarred Tyson, Carly Roberts.*

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2015

Attached Document

Attached is the Resolution Regarding International Divestment, Boycott, and Sanctions.

Background & Context

This resolution was one of the final actions taken by the Board of Directors in 2014. It was drafted by one or two members of the Board, and was voted on by six members, though all seven Board members signed it. It has been said that this document was written after one student requested help from the Board concerning this issue. Without knowing who the student is, it is difficult to know more. Former Board members may give further context. However, upon reflection and education on the subject of International Divestment, there may be some difference in opinion of the former Board members. More and more organizations, including the University of California Student Association, are choosing to divest from international conflicts. As resolutions are amendable and able to be repealed through the Board of Directors, this document did not go through committee.

Summary of Proposal

This proposal has its heart in the right place, there are many true statements in the resolution. However, if a situation abroad is neither peaceful nor environmental, refusing to take a stance on said situation is neither promoting global welfare, nor is it valuing a “holistic and multi-faceted approach to complex issues.” South African social rights activist, Desmond Tutu said, “If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate you neutrality.”

- We are an organization that caters to the relevant student interests. This subject is one that is an interest of many students around the United States and the world.
- On the other hand, there are those who stand on all sides of the issue, which is why this resolution needs to be repealed. If we decide to remain neutral in this situation, there may be a lack of trust from people who rely on us to listen to them.

Fiscal Impacts

This is not a proposal to divest. There is no proposed document in its place.

Rationale

This is a proposal that—by repealing the Resolution Regarding international Divestment, Boycott, and Sanctions—will allow the Associated Students to take a stance on International Divestment in the future, should the Western Washington University student body desire to do so.