Massachusetts against municipal divestment from Israel, and the website www.divestthis.com, which chronicles the ongoing failure of divest-from-Israel campaigns across the United States.

- 3. Articles I have written on the subject of divest-from-Israel campaigns have been published in the Jerusalem Post as well as newspapers in the United States.
- 4. I am familiar with the Olympia Food Cooperative and the enactment in July 2010 by its Board of Directors of a policy boycotting and divesting from Israel.
- 5. No matter where they have been pursued, efforts to organize boycotts of and divestment from Israel have failed in the United States. In short, policies boycotting and/or divesting from the State of Israel have never been "nationally recognized" in this country. Among food cooperatives alone, the record is stark: every food cooperative in the United States where such policies have been proposed has rejected them. These include the Madison Market (Central Co-op) in Seattle, Washington; the Port Townsend (Washington) Food Co-op; the Sacramento (California) Natural Foods Co-op and the Davis (California) Food Co-op (which declared that a boycott of Israel would contradict the Rochdale Principles upon which the co-op movement was founded).
- 6. Similarly, despite numerous campaigns and a host of misrepresentations to the contrary, there is not one college or university in the country that has adopted such policies. (False claims about divestment by Harvard, and Hampshire College have long since been debunked.) Nor was any major religious organization in the United States taking such a position by July 2010, and none has done so since. (A divestment policy adopted in 2004 by the Presbyterian Church was abandoned at the first opportunity, in 2006, by a vote of 95% to 5%; every proposal to revive it has been rejected since then.) Divest-from-Israel campaigns have found no more success in the private sector, where retailers, financial institutions, and other businesses have repeatedly refused to endorse a boycott of and/or divestment from Israel.

- 7. The endorsement of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions ("BDS")—an international alliance of anti-Israel political organizations—by certain nonprofit organizations is readily distinguishable from organizations, businesses, and/or institutions that actually boycott and/or have divested from Israel. For example, the endorsement by certain advocacy organizations of a BDS campaign aimed at convincing TIAA-CREF to divest from companies that do business in the West Bank and Gaza Strip—which has been rejected by TIAA-CREF several times—provides no evidence of any American entity actually boycotting and/or divesting from Israel.
- 8. TIAA-CREF has not divested from Israel and, so far as I am aware, has no plans to do so. It has, however, divested from at least one country, Sudan, indicating that the company makes a distinction between legitimate and illegitimate divestment requests.
- 9. There are many companies that produce goods and offer services in Israel proper that do not do business in the West Bank or Gaza Strip. These companies are encompassed by the Olympia Co-op's boycott, but would not be encompassed by a boycott of companies doing business in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Dated this 32th day of November, 2011.

Jon Haber