



Dayton Region Israel Trade Alliance



December 6, 2016

Hon. William Coley, Chairman
Government Oversight and Reform Committee
Ohio Senate
Columbus, OH

RE: House Bill 476

Dear Chairman Coley:

On behalf of the Dayton Region Israel Trade Alliance, the Dayton Development Coalition the Montgomery County Board of County Commissioners and the City of Dayton we would like to express our strong support for House Bill 476.

The Dayton Region Israel Trade Alliance (DRITA), a collaboration between Montgomery County, the Dayton Development Coalition and the City of Dayton, has been working for 6 years to develop business partnerships and collaborations between Dayton Region companies and institutions and Israeli businesses and institutions. Our DRITA initiative has resulted in a total of 30 non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) between Dayton Region and Israeli businesses and organizations regarding commercialization of Israeli technology, manufacturing contracts and technology partnerships. Two examples of the value of business and technology relationships between the Dayton Region and Israel are outlined below:

Simlat Ltd. (Israel) and Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio have partnered to deliver and install a UAS Training & Simulation Lab for Sinclair's National Center for UAS Training and Certification, an initial investment of \$750,000. Simlat's unique technology features industry-leading simulation systems that offer customized scenarios, performance assessments, training research capabilities and commercial applications. This recent collaboration resulted in Simlat Ltd. establishing a US office in Dayton and they are currently in the process of locating office space and hiring initial staff.

Woosh Smart Water Systems (Israel) has a unique water bottle purification and filling station and has partnered with Sinclair Community College, Montgomery County and the City of Dayton to establish a pilot program to build out their business model and market plan, an initial investment of \$350,000. Woosh has incorporated in Ohio and will also establish their US headquarters in Dayton. They have recently completed a sale of 25 Woosh water stations to Miami Beach, Fla., and are poised to grow significantly in the US.

The Dayton Region Israel Trade Alliance has a dedicated staff person who lives and works in Israel and promotes business development opportunities for the 12 county Dayton Region. Technology commercialization and international business development are key drivers to the Ohio economy and

specifically the Dayton Region so together we stand against the *Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement in Israel.*

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Joseph P. Tuss in cursive.

Joseph Tuss, County Administrator
Montgomery County

Handwritten signature of Jeff Hoagland in cursive.

Jeff Hoagland, President and CEO
Dayton Development Coalition

Handwritten signature of Shelley Dickstein in cursive.

Shelley Dickstein, City Manager
City of Dayton