

Hi, My name is Rod Such, and I'm with Occupation-Free Portland. There is substantial community and political opposition to the Israel Anti-Boycott Act in Portland and throughout Oregon. Our political leaders—Senator Merkley, Reps. Blumenauer and DeFazio, and the Multnomah County Democratic Party—oppose it as currently written. Faith leaders oppose it. More than 35 Portland faith leaders have signed an open letter opposing anti-BDS legislation. Nationally, the leaders of 17 Christian denominations that support BDS have signed a statement opposing the Israel Anti-Boycott Act. Legal organizations oppose it, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the Center for Constitutional Rights, the National Lawyers Guild, and Palestine Legal. National organizations with chapters in Portland oppose it, including Jewish Voice for Peace, J Street, and MoveOn.

Our opposition is based on the knowledge that the right to boycott is a key democratic right for those seeking justice using nonviolent means. In particular it is a response to a call from Palestinian civil society urging BDS as a way to achieve their fundamental human rights. This is a call that thousands of Portlanders of conscience feel it is imperative to heed, just as Portlanders did in the 1980s to help end apartheid in South Africa. The Israel Anti-Boycott Act is an attempt to undermine a database created by the United Nations Human Rights Council listing corporations that are complicit in Israel's illegal occupation and violations of human rights and international law. A similar database helped end South African apartheid. It should come as no surprise that those who deny democratic rights for Palestinians will also try to deny democratic rights for U.S. citizens. They are trying to extend the same features of the Israeli occupation to the United States.

We are urging you as City Councilors to lend your moral voice in opposition to any legislation that would revoke First Amendment protections, knowing that if our rights are denied, it is only a matter of time, especially under the Trump administration, before other people struggling for equal rights are also denied their free speech. We must reach the point in this country where the First Amendment and the Bill of Rights are not considered divisive. Thank you.

Parsons, Susan

From: Rod Such <rodsuch@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2018 9:21 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Re: Slot testimony for City Council = Jan 3 now Jan 10th

Hi Susan,

We have the 5 time certain slots for citizen testimony on Jan. 10 and I wanted to confirm the order of our speakers since our presenters will make our arguments in a logical progression. So we would like our names called in this order:

1. David Newman
2. Maria Barahona
3. Rod Such
4. Carol Landsman
5. Olivia Katib-Smith

Also, we noticed on the Web site that there was some confusion about BDS. We will be talking about the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement and the Israel Anti-Boycott Act which would criminalize the BDS movement. We're not talking about the Bureau of Development Services.

Thanks for your attention to this, Susan.

Rod

On Nov 7, 2017, at 4:03 PM, Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov> wrote:

Hello Rod,
Yes! We have an opening Jan 10th. I'm moving you to that spot.
Susan

Susan Parsons
Assistant Council Clerk
City of Portland
susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov
503.823.4085

-----Original Message-----

From: Rod Such [mailto:rodsuch@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 07, 2017 1:16 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Re: Slot testimony for City Council = Jan 3

Hi Susan, is it possible to change my slot to Jan. 10?

Rod Such

On Nov 2, 2017, at 11:08 AM, Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov> wrote:

Hello Rod,
Thank you for your email. You are confirmed for a Communications spot on January 3.

Here is further information for you on the Communications portion of the agenda:

- You will have three minutes to address the Council and may also submit written material (please provide seven copies).
- We start the meeting at 9:30 and Communications are the first item on the agenda.
- Please note communications allow the Council to hear issues that interest our citizens, but do not allow an opportunity for dialogue.
- The Council meeting takes place at City Hall, 1221 SW 4th Ave., 2nd Floor, Council Chambers.

Susan Parsons
Assistant Council Clerk
City of Portland
susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov
503.823.4085

-----Original Message-----

From: Rod Such [mailto:rodsuch@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Slot testimony for City Council

Hi,
I would like a slot to address the City Council at its Jan. 3 meeting. I will be speaking on behalf of Occupation-Free Portland. Thank you very much.

Rod Such
971-322-4237

4

Parsons, Susan

From: Rod Such <rodsuch@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Slot testimony for City Council

Hi, ¹⁰
I would like a slot to address the City Council at its Jan. ~~3~~ meeting. I will be speaking on behalf of Occupation-Free Portland. Thank you very much.

Rod Such
971-322-4237

Request of Rod Such to address Council regarding Occupation-Free
Portland (Communication)

JAN 10 2018

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JAN 02 2018

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By *Susan Parsons*
Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		