Foreign Minister Bob Carr has provided encouragement and support to the anti-Israel Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign by joining with his Labor and Green Senate colleagues to vote against a motion condemning the campaign.

This reveals the extent to which Federal Labor is captive to the radical agenda of the Greens.

I call on the Foreign Minister to apologise to businesses in Australia that have been targeted by BDS activists.

Senator Carr should have joined with the Coalition in voting to condemn the BDS campaign and the members of the Greens who support it.

He must explain whether his decision to vote against this motion was influenced by the government’s campaign for a temporary seat on the United Nations Security Council.

The UNSC campaign cannot justify any action that undermines Australia’s long-standing support for Israel.

**Senate Motion**

*Senator Sinodinos : To move—That the Senate—*

(a) notes that:

(i) Senator Rhiannon has acknowledged that some votes shifted away from the Greens in Marrickville in the New South Wales local government elections because of the boycott of Israel issue,

(ii) Marrickville Greens councillor, Ms Marika Kontellis, voted in 2011 to retain the Council’s Boycott, Divestments and Sanctions (BDS) policy and in August 2012 attended the Byron Bay BDS conference,

(iii) the New South Wales Greens chose Mr Karel Solomon, a BDS advocate who has branded Israel an apartheid state, as a candidate for the Marrickville Council, and

(iv) Ms Irene Doutney, the Greens candidate for Sydney Lord Mayor, has supported BDS actions and said that she personally favours a full boycott of Israel;

(b) calls on the New South Wales Greens to explicitly reject the BDS policy; and

(c) condemns the BDS campaign.