

SENATE RESOLUTION

8658

By Senators Frockt, Billig, Braun, Carlyle, Das, Hasegawa, Holy, Honeyford, Hunt, Keiser, King, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Lovick, Muzzall, Nobles, Pedersen, Rivers, Salomon, Schoesler, Trudeau, Wagoner, Wellman, C. Wilson, Brown, Conway, Dhingra, Fortunato, Nguyen, Padden, Randall, Robinson, Saldaña, Van De Wege, Warnick, and L. Wilson

1 WHEREAS, Antisemitism is one of the oldest forms of hate and is
2 expressed as biases or bigotry against Jews, just for being part of
3 the Jewish people; and

4 WHEREAS, The Anti-Defamation League's most recent Audit of
5 Antisemitic Incidents in the United States recorded more than 2,000
6 acts of assault, vandalism, and harassment, maintaining antisemitism
7 in the United States at its highest levels in over 40 years; and

8 WHEREAS, The latest FBI hate crime data reports that 55 percent
9 of religiously motivated hate crimes are targeted at the Jewish
10 community, which makes up just 2 percent of the population of the
11 United States; and

12 WHEREAS, The American Jewish Committee's report found that over
13 the past 12 months, one in four American Jews has been the target of
14 verbal or physical antisemitic attacks in-person, online, or on
15 social media, and that four in 10 American Jews have changed their
16 behavior out of fear of antisemitism; and

17 WHEREAS, Numerous incidents of antisemitic graffiti and vandalism
18 here in Washington State have included: Defacing the Star of David, a
19 symbol of the Jewish People; using Nazi symbols on or near sites
20 where Jews worship, gather, or work; and slogans accusing Jews of
21 crimes against humanity and controlling the United States government;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, Jewish officials in Washington and throughout the United
2 States have received threatening antisemitic mail and email; and

3 WHEREAS, Stereotypes and tropes against Jews have led to
4 significant acts of violence against Jews in this country in recent
5 years; and

6 WHEREAS, Hatred against Jews is a challenge to the basic
7 principles of tolerance, pluralism, and democracy, and the shared
8 values that bind Americans together; and

9 WHEREAS, Jews are a multiethnic, multiracial people whose
10 diversity is core to our communities and whose dedication to
11 Washington State is evident in their strong participation in our
12 local school, business, civic, philanthropic, and faith communities;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, State officials and institutions can play a powerful
15 role in promoting values of tolerance and pluralism and in protecting
16 individuals from acts of bigotry, including hatred against the Jewish
17 people;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate resolve to combat
19 antisemitism, in all its forms, for the protection of the Jewish
20 community of Washington State and to uphold the values of a tolerant
21 and pluralistic society that binds us together as Americans.

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