
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 311 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY HOGAN, MARCELL, MERCURI, GREEN, LABS, LEADBETER,
M. MACKENZIE, R. MACKENZIE, MENTZER, OWLETT, PICKETT, RAPP,
ROWE AND SCHEUREN, FEBRUARY 1, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 1, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 9, 2024, as "Antisemitism Awareness and
2 Education Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On October 17, 2023, the House of Representatives
4 unanimously passed House Resolution No. 245, which condemned the
5 terrorist attack in Israel by Hamas on October 7, 2023, and
6 urged the Congress of the United States to provide the State of
7 Israel with the necessary support to ensure its safety and
8 security; and

9 WHEREAS, Antisemitic incidents in the United States have
10 increased at an unprecedented record in the months since the
11 terror attack on October 7, 2023; and

12 WHEREAS, The Anti-Defamation League Center on Extremism has
13 recorded a significant increase in antisemitic incidents across
14 the United States, with reported incidents of harassment,
15 vandalism and assault increasing 388% over the same period last
16 year; and

17 WHEREAS, Antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of

1 actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity,
2 identity, affiliation or faith, remains a persistent, pervasive,
3 and disturbing problem in contemporary American society; and

4 WHEREAS, Jewish people continue to be a targeted minority in
5 the United States and Pennsylvania; and

6 WHEREAS, Data shows that Jewish people are consistently the
7 most likely of all religious groups to be victimized by
8 incidents of hate and that these incidents are increasing at an
9 alarming rate; and

10 WHEREAS, While there can be no exhaustive definition of
11 antisemitism because it can take many forms, the International
12 Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of
13 antisemitism has been an essential definitional tool used to
14 determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism, and
15 includes useful examples of discriminatory anti-Israel acts that
16 can cross the line into antisemitism; and

17 WHEREAS, The IHRA working definition:

18 (1) is used by various agencies of the Federal
19 Government and the 33 governments that are members of the
20 IHRA;

21 (2) is recommended for use by the European Council and
22 the European Parliament;

23 (3) is endorsed by the United Nations' Secretary General
24 and the Secretary General of the Organization of American
25 States;

26 (4) is included in policy guides prepared by the
27 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; and

28 (5) has been formally adopted by a growing number of
29 European nations;

30 and

1 WHEREAS, The use of this definition of antisemitism, though
2 not exhaustive, will increase awareness and understanding of the
3 parameters of contemporary anti-Jewish discrimination in certain
4 circumscribed areas; and

5 WHEREAS, It is incumbent on all leaders to unequivocally
6 condemn antisemitism; therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate
8 November 9, 2024, as "Antisemitism Awareness and Education Day"
9 in Pennsylvania.