

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, and C. 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  
2 United States have received threatening antisemitic mail and  
3 email; and

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

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

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

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

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

24 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
25 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
26 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8658,  
27 adopted by the Senate  
28 February 25, 2022

29 SARAH BANNISTER  
30 Secretary of the Senate