

RESOLUTION #183-2023

RESOLUTION CONFRONTING AND COMBATING ANTISEMITISM

WHEREAS, antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, identify, affiliation, or faith, remains a persistent, pervasive, and disturbing problem in American society; and

WHEREAS, Jews continue to be a targeted minority in the United States and are consistently the most likely of all religious groups to be victimized by incidents of hate, and such incidents are increasing at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that following the attacks on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, the Chabad of Poway in San Diego, a Kosher supermarket in Jersey City and a Chanukah gathering in Monsey, synagogues have felt compelled to re-evaluate their own security measures to keep their congregations safe; and

WHEREAS, the recent AJC (American Jewish Committee) State of Antisemitism in America Report found that more than one in three American Jews (37%) say they have been victims of antisemitism over the past five years; and

WHEREAS, the attack on a kosher deli in Jersey City in 2019 resulted in the murder of three people and the antisemitic verbal assaults in New Jersey have disturbed our communities and must be taken as an opportunity to teach about this issue and seek paths for healing and eliminating such hate; and

WHEREAS, officials and institutions throughout the state have a responsibility to protect citizens from acts of hate and bigotry, including antisemitism, and must be given the tools to do so; and

WHEREAS, valid monitoring, informed analysis and investigation, and effective policy-making all benefit from accurate and uniform definitions; and

WHEREAS, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), by consensus vote of its member states, adopted a Working Definition of Antisemitism in May 2016, which has become the internationally recognized, authoritative definition of antisemitism for use by governments and international organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Working Definition adopted by the IHRA reads in full: "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."; and

WHEREAS, the IHRA Working Definition has proven to be an essential tool used to help determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, the IHRA Working Definition is utilized by various government agencies, including the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, and can be utilized by law enforcement agencies in monitoring, training, and education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, in conference assembled, denounces antisemitism in all forms and calls for healing and education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism should be made available as an educational resource for municipalities to address antisemitism and other forms of discrimination.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to our representatives in Congress, the members of the New Jersey General Assembly and the State Senate, the New Jersey State Attorney General, the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor of the State of New Jersey.


ROLL CALL:

NAME	MOTION	SECONDED	YES	NO	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Collins		X	X			
Blumberg						X
Horn	X		X			

DATE: August 17, 2023

CERTIFICATION

I, Johanna Casey, Clerk of Margate City, Atlantic County, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Commissioners of the City of Margate City at a meeting of said Commission held on August 17, 2023 and said resolution was adopted by not less than a two-thirds vote of the members of the Commission.


Johanna Casey, RMC City Clerk