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HOUSE MEMORIAL 18

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

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and Stefani Lord

A MEMORIAL

CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM AND SUPPORTING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AND
THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

WHEREAS, both the United States constitution and the
constitution of New Mexico guarantee freedom of religion and
establish a commitment to the principle of tolerance that is
essential to the progress of the American people and the
diverse communities and religious groups of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, acts of hate, intimidation, discrimination and
violence based on ethnicity or religion have no place in New
Mexico, the United States or the global community; and

WHEREAS, antisemitism is a centuries-old form of bigotry
and racism faced by Jewish people; and

WHEREAS, following the October 7, 2023 Hamas massacre in
Israel, antisemitic incidents in the United States have

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1 occurred at the highest rates recorded over a two-month period
2 since the anti-defamation league began tracking those numbers
3 in 1979; and

4 WHEREAS, between October 7 and December 7, 2023, a total
5 of two thousand thirty-one antisemitic incidents took place, an
6 increase from four hundred sixty-five incidents during the same
7 period in 2022 and a three hundred thirty-seven percent
8 increase in antisemitic incidents year-over-year; and

9 WHEREAS, the antisemitic incidents that occurred during
10 this time period include forty incidents of physical assault,
11 three hundred thirty-seven incidents of vandalism, seven
12 hundred forty-nine incidents of verbal or written harassment
13 and nine hundred five rallies spreading antisemitic and anti-
14 Zionist rhetoric in support of terrorist acts against the state
15 of Israel; and

16 WHEREAS, the slogan "from the river to the sea", a
17 rallying cry for the eradication of the state of Israel and the
18 Jewish people, has been used by anti-Israel protestors in the
19 United States and across the globe; and

20 WHEREAS, anti-Israel rallies with overt messages of
21 antisemitism and anti-Zionism in support of terrorist acts
22 against the state of Israel were held in Albuquerque on October
23 28, 2023, in Las Cruces on November 9, 2023 and in Santa Fe on
24 December 3, 2023; and

25 WHEREAS, on November 4, 2023, during an anti-Israel

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1 protest in Washington, D.C., rioters shouted their support for
2 the October 7, 2023 Hamas massacre and other acts of terror
3 targeting Israel, calling for the end of the state of Israel
4 and spewing hateful and vile language amplifying antisemitic
5 sentiment; and

6 WHEREAS, during that same protest, rioters vandalized
7 property by defacing stone pillars around the perimeter of the
8 white house with blood-red hand prints and spray painting
9 "death to Israel" and "glory to our martyrs" on buildings in
10 the District of Columbia; and

11 WHEREAS, on November 15, 2023, anti-Israel protestors
12 illegally blocked and violently attacked the democratic
13 national committee headquarters, endangering the lives of the
14 people inside, including members of congress, and injuring six
15 capitol police officers; and

16 WHEREAS, it is imperative to never forget the tragedy and
17 horror of the Holocaust and to ensure that history is never
18 repeated; and

19 WHEREAS, all Americans regardless of their faith have a
20 stake in opposing antisemitism and in ending all forms of
21 bigotry and hatred based on religion, race and place of birth
22 and origin;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all instances
25 of antisemitism occurring in New Mexico, the United States and

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1 across the globe be strongly condemned and denounced and all
2 forms of terror, hate, discrimination and harassment targeting
3 members of the Jewish community be rejected; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico house of
5 representatives affirm strong support for the Jewish community
6 and for the state of Israel; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico university and
8 college presidents be called on to condemn acts of antisemitism
9 on their campuses and to take every action possible to protect
10 the safety of students who feel threatened or intimidated by
11 protestors conducting anti-Israel rallies; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico's elected officials
13 be called on to ensure the safety and security of Jewish
14 communities, including synagogues, schools, cemeteries and
15 other institutions; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico's public officials
17 be called on to address antisemitic actions and rhetoric to
18 ensure that the state of New Mexico lives up to the
19 constitutional mandate of freedom of religion and the embedded
20 principle of tolerance that is so essential to preserving the
21 republic; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the United States ambassador to Israel, New
24 Mexico's congressional delegation and the governor.