

**Introduced by Senator Stone
(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Bates, Berryhill, Block, Gaines,
Mitchell, Roth, Vidak, and Wolk)**

March 26, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 35—Relative to Anti-Semitism.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 35, as introduced, Stone. Anti-Semitism.

This measure would urge each University of California campus to adopt a resolution condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and racism, and would condemn any act of anti-Semitism augmenting education programs at all publicly funded schools in the State of California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The United States Department of State defines
2 anti-Semitism as “a certain perception of Jews, which may be
3 expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical
4 manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or
5 non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish
6 community institutions and religious facilities”; and

7 WHEREAS, There is clear evidence of increasing and alarming
8 incidents and expressions of anti-Semitism throughout the world;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, From sea to shining sea one can witness the
11 proliferation of anti-Semitic activity; and

12 WHEREAS, In February of 2015, the California Legislature’s
13 Jewish Caucus held a press conference addressing anti-Semitic
14 acts and in the same week an estimated 500 people gathered on
15 the steps of the State Capitol to protest the recent rise in

1 anti-Semitic acts occurring across the nation, including the display
2 of the Nazi swastika symbol superimposed on to an American flag
3 that was hung in the front of a private home in Sacramento's River
4 Park neighborhood, which tarnished the reputation of the Golden
5 State; and

6 WHEREAS, Swastikas and other anti-Semitic sentiments have
7 increased in recent months on college campuses across the country
8 and around the world; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2014, the kinds of recorded anti-Semitic acts
10 committed in the United States and around the world included
11 murders; violent attacks, and death threats against Jews; arson,
12 graffiti and property desecration; and murders at Jewish cemeteries,
13 places of worship, schools, and community events; and

14 WHEREAS, These types of anti-Semitic acts also extended to
15 soccer stadiums, the internet, editorial cartoons, and the use of
16 Nazi salutes, leading many Jewish individuals to conceal their
17 religious and ethnic identity; and

18 WHEREAS, In April of 2014, the United States Department of
19 State released the International Religious Freedom Report
20 recognizing that anti-Semitism continues to be internationally
21 prevalent; and

22 WHEREAS, The governments of France, Germany, Italy, and
23 the United Kingdom, the four countries where the majority of
24 anti-Semitic incidents have occurred in Europe, have strongly
25 condemned anti-Semitism as unacceptable in European society
26 and have all made clear statements that such attacks on their Jewish
27 communities are intolerable; and

28 WHEREAS, The State of California actively promotes tolerance
29 to all faiths and religions; and

30 WHEREAS, The United States government has played an
31 essential role in counteracting the resurgence of anti-Semitism
32 worldwide and has consistently supported efforts to address the
33 rise in anti-Semitism through its bilateral relationships and
34 participation in international organizations such as the United
35 Nations, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe,
36 and the Organization of American States; and

37 WHEREAS, The Legislature joins with people everywhere in
38 unequivocally condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and rejecting
39 attempts to justify anti-Jewish hatred or violent attacks as an

1 acceptable expression of disapproval or frustration over political
2 events in the Middle East or elsewhere; now, therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
4 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby urges each
5 University of California campus to adopt a resolution condemning
6 all forms of anti-Semitism and racism, including Islamophobia;
7 and be it further

8 *Resolved,* That the Legislature condemns any act of
9 anti-Semitism augmenting education programs at all publicly
10 funded schools in the State of California in order to promote
11 tolerance and acceptance of all religious beliefs in accordance with
12 the rights afforded to each person by the Founding Fathers of this
13 nation and the authors of the United States Constitution; and be it
14 further

15 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
16 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.