

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 6, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 35

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 amended, 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

1 acts and in the same week an estimated 500 people gathered on
2 the steps of the State Capitol to protest the recent rise in
3 anti-Semitic acts occurring across the nation, including the display
4 of the Nazi swastika symbol superimposed ~~on to~~ *onto* an American
5 flag that was hung in the front of a private home in Sacramento's
6 River Park neighborhood, which tarnished the reputation of the
7 Golden State; and

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

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

17 WHEREAS, These types of anti-Semitic acts also extended to
18 soccer stadiums, the ~~internet~~, *Internet*, editorial cartoons, and the
19 use of Nazi salutes, leading many Jewish individuals to conceal
20 their religious and ethnic identity; and

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

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

31 WHEREAS, The State of California actively promotes tolerance
32 to all faiths and religions; and

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

1 WHEREAS, The Legislature joins with people everywhere in
2 unequivocally condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and rejecting
3 attempts to justify anti-Jewish hatred or violent attacks as an
4 acceptable expression of disapproval or frustration over political
5 events in the Middle East or elsewhere; now, therefore, be it

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

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

18 **RESOLVED,** *That nothing in this resolution is intended to*
19 *diminish the rights of anyone, including students, to freely engage*
20 *in any speech or other activity protected by the United States*
21 *Constitution; and be it further*

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