

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2015

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)**

(Coauthor: Assembly Member Linder)

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 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

1 WHEREAS, In February of 2015, the California Legislature's
2 Jewish Caucus held a press conference addressing anti-Semitic
3 acts and in the same week an estimated 500 people gathered on
4 the steps of the State Capitol to protest the recent rise in
5 anti-Semitic acts occurring across the nation, including the display
6 of the Nazi swastika symbol superimposed onto an American flag
7 that was hung in the front of a private home in Sacramento's River
8 Park neighborhood, which tarnished the reputation of the Golden
9 State; and

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

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

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

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

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

33 WHEREAS, The State of California actively promotes tolerance
34 to all faiths and religions; and

35 WHEREAS, The United States government has played an
36 essential role in counteracting the resurgence of anti-Semitism
37 worldwide and has consistently supported efforts to address the
38 rise in anti-Semitism through its bilateral relationships and
39 participation in international organizations such as the United

1 Nations, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe,
2 and the Organization of American States; and

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

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

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

19 *Resolved,* That nothing in this resolution is intended to diminish
20 the rights of anyone, including students, to freely engage in any
21 speech or other activity protected by the United States ~~Constitution;~~
22 *Constitution, including that which is critical or supportive of the*
23 *policies of any country;* and be it further

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

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