



City of Miami

Legislation

Resolution: R-20-0303

City Hall
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Miami, FL 33133
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File Number: 7946

Final Action Date: 9/24/2020

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION RECOGNIZING THE GROWING PROBLEM OF ANTISEMITISM IN AMERICA AND CALLING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE'S ("IHRA") WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM, INCLUDING THE ELEVEN (11) CONTEMPORARY EXAMPLES STATED HEREIN, AS AN IMPORTANT TOOL TO ADDRESS IT; FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENSURE THAT THE IHRA WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM IS AVAILABLE AS AN EDUCATION RESOURCE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE AND OTHER CITY OF MIAMI DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ADDRESSING ANTISEMITISM AND OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION.

SPONSOR(S): Mayor Francis X. Suarez

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, the deadliest attack against the American Jewish community took place on October 27, 2018 at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where eleven worshippers were killed and several more were injured; and

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

WHEREAS, that definition is "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, according to the IHRA, "Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that

leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for 'why things go wrong.' It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits"; and

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA:

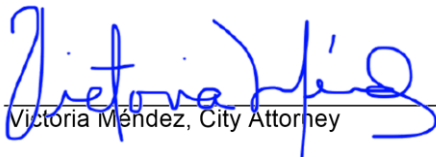
Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are hereby adopted by reference and incorporated herein as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The City of Miami recognizes the growing problem of antisemitism in the U.S. and adopts the non-binding IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, including the eleven (11) contemporary examples stated therein, as an important tool to address it.

Section 3. The City Commission directs the City Manager to ensure that the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is available as an education resource for the Department of Police and other City departments and agencies responsible for addressing antisemitism and other forms of discrimination.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:



Victoria Méndez, City Attorney

10/1/2020