

Tell Indiana Senate Leadership and the Senate Education Committee to Hear HB 1002

Background: Last month, the Indiana House of Representatives passed <u>HB 1002</u> 83-0. This legislation will add the <u>International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working</u> <u>Definition of Antisemitism</u> to the education code and aligns Indiana with a widely accepted standard.

Now, we need the Senate to hear the legislation. Last year, a similar bill passed the House but failed to get a hearing in the Senate. Legislators stated that the community seemed too divided on the issue, and they did not hear from enough supporters.

With over <u>50 Jewish organizations and institutions in Indiana</u> in addition to 35 states and over 1,200 institutions worldwide, endorsing this definition, let us show our state senators that there is nothing divisive about confronting antisemitism and that we are united in our support of HB 1002.

Take Action!

Call and email Indiana Senate Leadership and the Senate Education Committee and urge them to hear HB 1002. (Sample language is below, but we highly encourage you to personalize your message.)

Senate Leadership Contacts

President Pro-Tempore Senator Rodric Bray (R-37) Senator.Bray@iga.in.gov 317-232-9416

Senate Majority Leader Senator Chris Garten (R-45) Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov 317-232-9840 <u>Majority Caucus Chair Senator</u> Travis Holdman (R-19) <u>Senator.Holdman@iga.in.gov</u> 317-232-9453

Senate Education Committee Chair Senator Jeff Raatz (R-27) Senator.Raatz@iga.in.gov 317-233-0930

Senate Education Committee Contacts

Senator John Crane, Ranking Member (R-24) <u>s24@iga.in.gov</u> 317-233-0930

Senator Brian Buchanan (R-7) Senator.Buchanan@iga.in.gov 317-234-9441

Senator Spencer Deery (R-23) Senator.Deery@iga.in.gov 317-232-9517

Senator Dan Dernulc (R-1) Senator.Dernulc@iga.in.gov 317-232-9414

Senator Stacey Donato (R-18) Senator.Donato@iga.in.gov 317-234-9054

Senator J.D. Ford (D-29) <u>s29@iga.in.gov</u> 317-232-9532 Senator Andrea Hunley (D-46) <u>s46@iga.in.gov</u> 317-232-9491

Senator Dr. Tyler Johnson (R-14) Senator.Johnson@iga.in.gov 317-232-9466

Senator Jean Leising (R-42) Senator.Leising@iga.in.gov 317-232-9493

Senator Fady Qaddoura (D-30) s30@iga.in.gov 317-232-9404

Senator Linda Rogers (R-11) Senator.Rogers@iga.in.gov 317-234-9443

Senator Shelli Yoder (D-40) <u>s40@iga.in.gov</u> 317-232-9534

Sample Script

Dear Senator [Last Name],

I am a member of the local community, writing to you concerning the fight against antisemitism. I urge you to support HB 1002 and ensure it receives a hearing in the Senate.

The Indiana Jewish community strongly endorses the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism and HB 1002. Given the alarming rise in antisemitic incidents in the past three months, taking a strong stand against antisemitism is more important than ever.

The IHRA working definition serves as an educational tool to aid educators and administrators who are responsible for identifying and combatting antisemitism. 35 states, the U.S. Department of State, and over 1,200 institutions globally, including more than 50 Jewish organizations and institutions in Indiana, have endorsed this definition. By adopting this definition, Indiana aligns itself with a widely accepted standard across the country, promoting a unified stance against antisemitism.

HB 1002, which adds the IHRA definition to the education code, not the criminal code, is a critical step in this direction. The definition does not preclude criticism of Israel similar to that of any other country. The House approved HB 1002 with a 83-0 vote, and we hope that the Senate will approve it as well.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I urge you to hear HB 1002, as I trust that your commitment to fostering an inclusive and safe community will guide your decision.

Sincerely, [Your Name]