

BOROUGH OF LONGPORT
Atlantic County - New Jersey
Resolution 2023-105

A Resolution Denouncing Antisemitism and Calling for Healing and Education

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, we acknowledge that following the attacks on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, the Chabad of Poway in San Diego, a Kosher supermarket in Jersey City and a Chanukah gathering in Monsey, synagogues have felt compelled to re-evaluate their own security measures to keep their congregations safe; and WHEREAS, the recent AJC (American Jewish Committee) State of Antisemitism in America Report found that more than one in three American Jews (37%) say they have been victims of antisemitism over the past five years; and WHEREAS, the attack on a kosher deli in Jersey City in 2019 resulted in the murder of three people and the antisemitic verbal assaults in New Jersey have disturbed our communities and must be taken as an opportunity to teach about this issue and seek paths for healing and eliminating such hate; and WHEREAS, officials and institutions throughout the state 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, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), by consensus vote of its member states, adopted a Working Definition of Antisemitism in May 2016, which has become the internationally recognized, authoritative definition of antisemitism for use by governments and international organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Working Definition adopted by the IHRA reads in full: “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, the IHRA Working Definition has proven to be an essential tool used to help determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, in conference assembled, denounces antisemitism in all forms and calls for healing and education; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism should be made available as an educational resource for municipalities to address antisemitism and other forms of discrimination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to our representatives in Congress, the members of the New Jersey General Assembly and the State Senate, the New Jersey State Attorney General, the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor of the State of New Jersey. Sponsor Hon. Janice Kovach Mayor, Town of Clinton President, NJ League of Municipalities

RECORD OF GOVERNING BODY VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE						
COMMISSION	AYE	NAY	N.V	AB.	MOT.	SEC.
RUSSO				X		
LEEDS	X					x
LAWLER	X				X	
X-Indicates Vote NV-Not Voting AB-Absent MOT-Motion SEC-Second						

I, Monica Kyle, Clerk of the Borough of Longport, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Longport Board of Commissioners at a meeting held on the 16th day of August, 2023

DATE OF ADOPTION:

8/16/2023

/s/ MONICA A. KYLE, RMC, Municipal Clerk