



November 28, 2016

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Dear Senators and Representatives:

On behalf of The Jewish Federations of North America, the umbrella organization of North America's 151 Jewish Federations, we write to support the "Anti-Semitism Awareness Act of 2016."

Anti-Semitism on college campuses often creates an environment where those who identify as Jewish or Zionist live in a state of fear and intimidation that prevents them from exercising their right to speak and act as they wish. This legislation concretizes into law the 2010 definition developed by the State Department's Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, which is based in large part on the European Union's working definition of anti-Semitism. If enacted into law, this legislation will provide essential guidance to help government officials and college administrators define when anti-Israel activities on college campuses are also anti-Semitic activities.

As acts of anti-Semitism continue to increase on college campuses – and in society at large – the need for the "Anti-Semitism Awareness Act of 2016" is timely and critically important. Jewish Federations commend Congress for taking the lead in supporting this legislation, and look forward to actively working to secure its passage.

Sincerely,

Richard V. Sandler
Chair, Board of Trustees

Jerry Silverman
President & CEO