

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1007

To provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. BACON, Ms. FOXX, Ms. GILLEN, Mr. OWENS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. KILEY of California, Mr. RYAN, Mr. KEAN, Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. BROWN, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mrs. BICE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mrs. KIM, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. CAREY, Mr. MANN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. JAMES, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CRANK, Ms. MENG, Mr. ESTES, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. MALOY, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. WITTMAN, and Ms. STEVENS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Antisemitism Aware-
5 ness Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

8 (1) title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42
9 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), prohibits discrimination on
10 the basis of race, color, and national origin in pro-
11 grams and activities receiving Federal financial as-
12 sistance;

13 (2) while such title does not cover discrimina-
14 tion based solely on religion, individuals who face
15 discrimination based on actual or perceived shared
16 ancestry or ethnic characteristics do not lose protec-
17 tion under such title for also being members of a
18 group that share a common religion;

19 (3) discrimination against Jews may give rise to
20 a violation of such title when the discrimination is
21 based on race, color, or national origin, which can
22 include discrimination based on actual or perceived
23 shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics;

24 (4) it is the policy of the United States to en-
25 force such title against prohibited forms of discrimi-

1 nation rooted in antisemitism as vigorously as
2 against all other forms of discrimination prohibited
3 by such title; and

4 (5) as noted in the U.S. National Strategy to
5 Counter Antisemitism issued by the White House on
6 May 25, 2023, it is critical to—

7 (A) increase awareness and understanding
8 of antisemitism, including its threat to America;

9 (B) improve safety and security for Jewish
10 communities;

11 (C) reverse the normalization of anti-
12 semitism and counter antisemitic discrimina-
13 tion; and

14 (D) expand communication and collabora-
15 tion between communities.

16 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

17 Congress finds the following:

18 (1) Antisemitism is on the rise in the United
19 States and is impacting Jewish students in K–12
20 schools, colleges, and universities.

21 (2) The International Holocaust Remembrance
22 Alliance (referred to in this Act as the “IHRA”) Working
23 Definition of Antisemitism is a vital tool
24 which helps individuals understand and identify the
25 various manifestations of antisemitism.

1 (3) On December 11, 2019, Executive Order
2 13899 extended protections against discrimination
3 under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to individuals
4 subjected to antisemitism on college and university
5 campuses and tasked Federal agencies to consider
6 the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism when
7 enforcing title VI of such Act.

8 (4) Since 2018, the Department of Education
9 has used the IHRA Working Definition of Anti-
10 semitism when investigating violations of that title
11 VI.

12 (5) The use of alternative definitions of anti-
13 semitism impairs enforcement efforts by adding mul-
14 tiple standards and may fail to identify many of the
15 modern manifestations of antisemitism.

16 (6) The White House released the first-ever
17 United States National Strategy to Counter Anti-
18 semitism on May 25, 2023, making clear that the
19 fight against this hate is a national, bipartisan pri-
20 ority that must be successfully conducted through a
21 whole-of-government-and-society approach.

22 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

23 For purposes of this Act, the term “definition of anti-
24 semitism”—

1 (1) means the definition of antisemitism adopt-
2 ed on May 26, 2016, by the IHRA, of which the
3 United States is a member, which definition has
4 been adopted by the Department of State; and

5 (2) includes the “[c]ontemporary examples of
6 antisemitism” identified in the IHRA definition.

7 **SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR TITLE VI OF THE**
8 **CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964.**

9 In reviewing, investigating, or deciding whether there
10 has been a violation of title VI of the Civil Rights Act
11 of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.) on the basis of race,
12 color, or national origin, based on an individual’s actual
13 or perceived shared Jewish ancestry or Jewish ethnic char-
14 acteristics, the Department of Education shall take into
15 consideration the definition of antisemitism as part of the
16 Department’s assessment of whether the practice was mo-
17 tivated by antisemitic intent.

18 **SEC. 6. OTHER RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**

19 (a) GENERAL RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
20 this Act shall be construed—

21 (1) to expand the authority of the Secretary of
22 Education;

23 (2) to alter the standards pursuant to which the
24 Department of Education makes a determination

1 that harassing conduct amounts to actionable dis-
2 crimination; or

3 (3) to diminish or infringe upon the rights pro-
4 tected under any other provision of law that is in ef-
5 fect as of the date of enactment of this Act.

6 (b) CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS.—Nothing in
7 this Act shall be construed to diminish or infringe upon
8 any right protected under the First Amendment to the
9 Constitution of the United States.

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