

RESOLUTION DENOUNCING THE INCREASE IN ANTISEMITISM

WHEREAS, Since May of 2021, there had been an alarming surge in verbal, physical and online assaults against Jews across America, and internationally, including against Jewish diners eating outdoors in Los Angeles and Orthodox Jews in New York, local Jewish-owned businesses in Santa Clara County and elsewhere, synagogues, preschools and other Jewish community gathering places have been defaced with antisemitic graffiti; and

WHEREAS, According to a recent survey by the Anti-Defamation League, 63 percent of Jews surveyed have witnessed or experienced antisemitism over the past five years; more than 50 percent of Jews said they felt less safe in the U.S. today than they did a decade ago; there was a recent hostage-taking at a synagogue in Texas that alarmed the country and further showed the vulnerability of Jewish places of worship; on social media, in May of 2021 alone there were over 17,000 tweets with some variation of “Hitler was right”: and

WHEREAS, Historically, the Santa Clara County Democratic Party has stood firmly against antisemitism and taken action to address upticks in Jews being targeted, along with other ethnic and religious groups facing racism or racist attacks; and

WHEREAS, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) includes the following: “Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, In light of the volume and frequency of acts of intolerance, xenophobia and the evolving nature of antisemitism, we hereby reaffirm our commitment to an open and inclusive community that actively opposes all of these forms of prejudice, bias or discrimination against people based on religion, ethnicity, race, sex, national origin, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and disability; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Santa Clara County Democratic Party condemns in the strongest terms the most recent surge in antisemitism and commits to fighting back against antisemitism; working to uphold principles of equality, pluralism, and inclusivity; and standing in solidarity with the Jewish community whenever they are targeted or marginalized.

Submitted by State Senator Josh Becker and Assemblymember Marc Berman and supported by Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Assemblymember Evan Low, Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Supervisor Otto Lee, Patrick Ahrens, David Cohen, Ellen Kamei, Raven Malone, Alyson Abramowitz, the Peninsula Democratic Coalition, Dean Democratic Club of Silicon Valley, Milpitas Democratic Club, South Bay Democratic Coalition, Assyrian Democrats of the Bay Area, Silicon Valley Asian Pacific American Democratic Club, Bay Area Iranian American Democratic Club, and the Jewish Democratic Club of Silicon Valley