

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 409**

**WHEREAS**, Anti-Semitism is an ancient form of religious hatred that has resulted in centuries of persecution and injustice directed against Jewish people throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, During the past half-century, the people of the State of Texas and of many other parts of the United States have worked to increase their collective commitment to democratic values, to provide educational initiatives that promote tolerance and respect, and to safeguard the civil rights of all citizens, thus tempering the spread of anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred; sustaining those efforts is a matter of the highest importance to this nation and this state; and

**WHEREAS**, A resurgence of anti-Semitism is now occurring in many parts of the world, aided by the easy transmittal of injurious communications via the Internet and other media; anti-Semitism is re-emerging throughout Europe with a virulence not seen since the end of World War II, while in many countries anti-Semitic sentiments have become a common feature in the media, in government pronouncements, and in religious declarations; and

**WHEREAS**, The governments and leaders of many nations have been slow to recognize and respond to the resurgence of anti-Semitism on their own soil, thus encouraging and emboldening proponents of anti-Jewish activities and undermining the spirit of pluralism that is essential to any democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, Citizens of Texas, and indeed all Americans, have a profound interest in seeing hatred replaced by respect and

totalitarianism replaced by democracy; the members of this chamber believe that an end to anti-Semitism would benefit all Texans and that every available legislative measure should be used to accomplish that goal; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby commend the Southwest and North Texas Regions of the Anti-Defamation League for their efforts to combat the spread of anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred, both domestically and internationally, while advancing the spirit of tolerance and respect that is fundamental to democratic life; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the Texas Senate also encourage all Texans to make a commitment to fighting anti-Semitism, defending democracy, and protecting civil rights throughout the world.

Ellis

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 16, 2005.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate