



**THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**22nd SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SECOND SENATE
8 MARCH 2023**

**BILL #5212
ADDRESSING ANTI-SEMITISM ACT**

WRITTEN BY: Robert Long, ASCSU President; Elijah Sandoval, ASCSU Vice-President

COLLABORATED WITH: Rabbi Yerachmiel Gorelik, Jewish Faculty Advisor and Director of Chabad Jewish Center of Northern Colorado and Colorado State University

SPONSORED BY: Sammy Trout, University Affairs Chair, Senator for the College of Liberal Arts;

ENDORSED BY: The Advisory Council on Jewish Inclusion; Adrian Salazar, Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Caucus, Senator, Pride Resource Center; Mia Ritter, Senator, Native American Cultural Center; Ruairí Low, Senator, Student Disability Center; Ariadne Athey, Senator for the Student Disability Center; Justin Melka, Senator, College of Liberal Arts; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Affairs Committee

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this bill is to commit the Associated Students of Colorado State University to combating antisemitic rhetoric and actions within their communities. To ensure that these actions can be addressed properly, the Associated Students of Colorado State University shall also seek to undergo training regarding antisemitism lead by leaders from the Advisory Council on Jewish Inclusion.

WHEREAS

According to the Anti-Defamation League, antisemitism is defined as “A hatred towards Jews that may manifest in discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and violent and deadly attacks against Jewish individuals, communities, facilities, and institutions, whether religiously, ethnically, or culturally ‘Jewish’ defined.”¹; and,

WHEREAS

The Associated Students of Colorado State University is tasked with representing and advocating for the interests of Colorado State University Students; and,

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WHEREAS

It is therefore in the best interest of students to make all students feel welcome within ASCSU and at CSU and ensure that ASCSU is in adherence to the Principles of Community; and,

WHEREAS

ASCSU has deep and unfortunate ties to an antisemitic past and present that are still being felt to this day; and,

WHEREAS

There has been legislation in the past that have been of similar nature to this piece of legislation (see Resolution #4904.)². However almost all who were there when it was written have left and much has been forgotten since that time; and,

WHEREAS

This comes at a time where antisemitic actions/rhetoric are increasing across the United States, with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) reporting a total of 2,717 antisemitic related incidents in 2021 (up from 2,026 in 2020, a 34 percent increase). With 88 of these incidents being categorized as assaults (a 167 percent increase from 33 in 2020), 1,776 incidents being categorized as harassments (a 43 percent increase from 1,242 in 2020), and 853 incidents being categorized as vandalism (a 14 percent increase from 751 in 2020) with swastikas being present for 2/3 (578)³ of these vandalism incidents; and,

WHEREAS

Please note, these statistics only account for the incidents that have been reported to the ADL, the actual statistics are much higher; and,

WHEREAS

The state of Colorado has been no exception to this trend, with 92 antisemitic incidents being reported in 2021 (a 53 percent increase from 60 in 2020)⁴, with the ripple effect of these trends even reaching our home of CSU; and,

WHEREAS

These antisemitic acts at CSU have included: several swastika incidents, including on individual students' cars, a Jewish student having the word "Jew" written on their door, Jewish students and community members being called "wicked" on the plaza, a roommate to a Jewish student dressed in Nazi uniforms for Halloween, professors and students making inappropriate parallels to the Holocaust, and students doing the 'Heil Hitler' salute sometimes with swastika armbands drawn on their arms; and,

WHEREAS

In addition to this, Jewish members within ASCSU have felt significant hatred from other members within and have thus been forced to leave due to antisemitic rhetoric "A fellow student in student government messaged me calling Jews Nazis, fascists, and accused

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Israel of genocide. He also sent me a photo of a visibly Jewish person at a Proud Boy rally as proof that Jews were ‘fascist Nazis.’ Most people within student government unfollowed me and wouldn’t talk to me after negative news of Israel in 2021. I was in a leadership position in student government but after the summer of 2021 the student organizations became too hostile for me, resulting in resigning from my position, due to anxiety stemming from those messages and lost friends.” (Anonymous ASCSU official, Jewish on Campus Instagram); and,

WHEREAS

According to Jewish Voice for Peace, ““Definitions of antisemitism that treat criticism of Israel or of Zionism as inherently antisemitic are inaccurate and harmful.” This is certainly true. Criticism of Israel or of Zionism is not inherently anti-Semitic. But sometimes it is. More radical expressions of Anti-Zionism can be motivated by anti-Semitism, and can perpetuate anti-Semitic stereotypes. It may also create a climate in which anti-Semitism becomes more acceptable.”⁵; and,

WHEREAS

“Hate crimes may effectively intimidate other members of the victim’s community, leaving them feeling isolated, vulnerable, and unprotected by the law. By making members of minority communities fearful, angry, and suspicious of other groups – and of the power structure that is supposed to protect them – these incidents can damage the fabric of our society and fragment communities.”⁶ ASCSU exists to defend students regardless of their race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender identity, status, or nationality; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ENACTED

That the 52nd Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University and the Student Body of Colorado State University denounce and condemn anti-Semitism in all forms that have and may happen; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That the 52nd Senate recognizes that there is much more we can do regarding antisemitism both within ASCSU and on the CSU campus and that our work is far from over; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That the 52nd Senate sees the importance for ASCSU to take actions to correct itself and ensure that both ASCSU and CSU is a safe community for all to thrive in and for all 3 branches to seek the assistance of leaders from the Advisory Council on Jewish Inclusion for training about identifying antisemitism and combatting it; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That ASCSU join efforts with CSU in their measures in addressing antisemitism, including gathering student input and communicating that **to** the CSU Administration; and,

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THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That ASCSU formally requests that the CSU Administration continues to open avenues for students in the Jewish community – and other marginalized communities – to voice their concerns; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That a copy of this legislation be forwarded to Rick Miranda, Executive Vice President of Colorado State University; Tony Frank, Chancellor of the Colostate System; Jess Dyrdaahl; ASCSU Advisor; Marcus Zacarias, ASCSU Chief Justice; Nicholas DeSalvo, ASCSU Speaker of the Senate; Robert Long, ASCSU President; Carolin Aronis and Mica Glantz, Co-Chairs for the Advisory Council of Jewish Inclusion; Blanche Hughes, Vice President of Student Affairs; Rabbi Yerachmiel Gorelik, Jewish Faculty Advisor and Director of Chabad Jewish Center of Northern Colorado and Colorado State University; Kauline Cipriani, Vice President for Inclusive Excellence; JoAnn Cornell, Director of the Asian Pacific American Cultural Center; Duan Ruff, Director of the Black/African American Cultural Center; Dora S. Frias, Director of El Centro; Maggie Hendrickson, Interim Director of the Pride Resource Center; Tyrone Smith, Director of the Native American Cultural Center; Justin Dove, Director of the Student Disability Center; Casey Malsam, Interim Director of the Women and Gender Advocacy Center; Dr. Sushmita Chatterjee, Professor and Chair of the Department of Ethnic Studies and Women's Studies & Gender Research;

**PASSAGE AND ENACTMENT OF BILL #5212
22nd SESSION**

UNANIMOUS CONSENT

8 MARCH 2023

SENATE PASSAGE

DATE

ASCSU PRESIDENT ROBERT LONG

DATE
