

May 3, 2024

We, and our members, welcomed President Trump's 2019 Executive Order Combating Antisemitism, and we are grateful the Biden administration sustained that order. Finally, after eight years of debate, the Antisemitism Awareness Act of 2023, which largely codifies President Trump's 2019 Executive Order, was passed by the House on May 1, 2024.

To the Biblically literate, claims that the Antisemitism Awareness Act is anti-Christian are as insulting as they are injurious. Speaking about the Jewish people, Jesus said, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40) And just as Biblical literacy is a necessary precondition to defending Christianity, so too is literacy of this law.

The House's debate over this bill exemplifies the need for this legislation. As is clear, the world's oldest hatred is alive and well on both fringes of the partisan divide. Likewise, as American colleges are taken over by hordes of pro-Hamas demonstrators claiming their genocidal ambitions are merely anti-Israel, this legislation is timelier than ever.

What the opposition to this legislation is choosing to ignore is that this law is about preventing unlawful action—not speech. For the law to apply, a student would have to have an unlawful act committed against them first, and only thereafter would the definition of antisemitism be considered in order to determine whether or not the underlying unlawful act was motivated by antisemitism. This definition and its examples are only used for guidance, because as we have recently seen across American college campuses, you cannot defeat what you are unwilling to define.

This law no more stifles free speech than the presence of a thermometer would change the temperature. This law is sound. The Biblical and moral mandate is clear. We thank Speaker Johnson for moving this measure forward and urge the Senate to advance this legislation without delay.

Sincerely,



Pastor John Hagee  
National Chairman  
Christians United for Israel



Ralph E. Reed  
Chairman  
Faith and Freedom Coalition