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LD 1351

I'm writing today to express my concerns over LD 1351. I read the working definition of "antisemitism" adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance 5 Alliance Plenary of which this bill refers to, and would encourage others to do the same. While there are parts of that definition that seem obvious and valid, there are other pieces that appear to leave room for concern, with the potential to conflate criticism of the Israeli Government with antisemitism. I believe this is a primary concern among those who are worried about this bill being used as a way to crack down on the speech of those who are criticizing the Israeli Government's actions, as well as the US Government's involvement and support of said actions. I am not an expert on Israel or Palestine, but in the wake of the federal government cracking down on dissenting voices, I worry about censorship of those who are speaking out in good faith for those who are suffering. I gather from reading the working definition of "antisemitism" (adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance 5 Alliance Plenary in Bucharest, Romania on May 26, 2016), that there appears to possibly be some room for nuance when defining what is and is not antisemitism. If a bill like this were to pass, I believe we need a good understanding of how this definition would be interpreted, and a decent reassurance that such a bill would not be abused to punish those standing up for the innocent civilians caught in the horrible situation in the Middle East.