

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 17, 2024

The Honorable Rochelle Garza  
Chair  
U.S. Commission on Civil Rights  
1331 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 1150  
Washington, DC 20425

Dear Chair Garza,

As students return to campus for the fall semester, we write to request that the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR) convene a briefing on the alarming rise in antisemitism on college and university campuses, particularly following October 7, 2023, and issue recommendations to Congress and the Administration to help curb these trends.

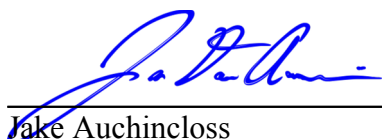
Nearly two decades ago, the USCCR held a briefing and published a report<sup>1</sup> on campus antisemitism. The report notes that in 2004, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) documented 70 reported incidents of antisemitism on college and university campuses. Unfortunately, the problem has only gotten worse. In 2023, ADL tracked an unprecedented 922 antisemitic incidents on college and university campuses – 732 of which occurred between October 7 and the end of the calendar year. This increase over the last twenty years reflects a staggering 1,217% increase in documented antisemitic incidents on college and university campuses alone.

The start of the academic year should be a time of excitement and learning, yet Jewish students are increasingly reporting<sup>2</sup> that they feel unsafe due to the surge in antisemitic rhetoric and actions on their campuses. This hostile environment not only threatens the physical safety of students, but also negatively impacts their academic experiences and well-being.

We respectfully request that the USCCR investigate the current state of antisemitism on campus and issue a report with recommended steps Congress and federal agencies can take to protect Jewish students and foster a safe learning environment moving forward.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



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Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



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Kevin Kiley  
Member of Congress

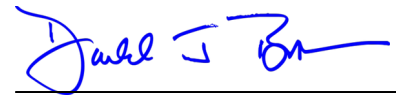
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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.usccr.gov/files/pubs/docs/081506campusantibrief07.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.adl.org/resources/report/campus-antisemitism-study-campus-climate-and-after-hamas-terrorist-attacks>



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Nick LaLota  
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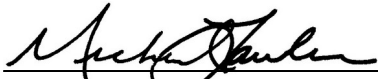
Wiley Nickel  
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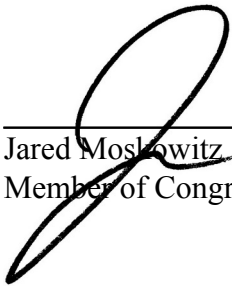
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