

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

HIGHER EDUCATION: Requests public postsecondary education institutions in Louisiana to adopt policies and procedures to combat antisemitism on campus

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request each public postsecondary education institution to adopt policies and procedures to combat antisemitism on campuses and to report related data to the Board of Regents.

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana condemns all acts of hate and bias, including antisemitism, and seeks to promote civil rights, safety, inclusion, and dignity for all residents; and

WHEREAS, the state also affirms the right of all students, faculty, and staff at postsecondary institutions to be free from discrimination and harassment on the basis of religion, race, ethnicity, or national origin and recognizes that this is guaranteed under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America and Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, Jewish students in Louisiana and across the country are targeted by acts of hate, including threats, harassment, intimidation, and vandalism, on college campuses; and

WHEREAS, according to the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) annual audit of antisemitic incidents, in 2024, there were 9,354 incidents of antisemitic assault, harassment, and vandalism across the country, and this represents a 5% increase from 2023, a 344% increase over the past five years, and a 926% increase over the past ten years, reaching the highest level recorded by ADL; the audit also revealed that Louisiana has experienced a nearly six-fold increase since 2020; and

1 WHEREAS, Jewish students are targeted for hate crimes at a higher per capita rate
2 than students belonging to any other group; and

3 WHEREAS, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) has
4 developed a working definition of antisemitism, and this definition is an appropriate guide
5 for policy and enforcement purposes.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
7 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request each public postsecondary education
8 institution to adopt policies and procedures to combat antisemitism on campuses by
9 January 1, 2026, guided by the IHRA working definition and in compliance with Titles VI
10 and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the First Amendment to the Constitution of the
11 United States of America, and all applicable Louisiana laws.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such policies shall include, at a minimum,
13 provision for the following:

14 (1) At the start of each academic year, issuing a statement setting forth the
15 institution's commitment to fostering a campus environment that is free from discrimination
16 and harassment on the basis of religion, race, ethnicity, and national origin, including
17 antisemitism, and taking appropriate action to address and ameliorate such discrimination
18 and harassment when it occurs.

19 (2) At the start of each academic semester, notifying all students, staff, and faculty
20 of the institution's policies prohibiting discrimination and harassment on the basis of
21 religion, race, ethnicity, and national origin and retaliation for reporting discrimination and
22 harassment on those bases and the institution's policies and procedures for reporting
23 discrimination and harassment on the basis of religion, race, ethnicity, or national origin and
24 filing a complaint of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.

25 (3) At the start of each academic semester, notifying all administrators, faculty, and
26 staff responsible for receiving reports and complaints of discrimination and harassment
27 based on religion, race, ethnicity, and national origin of their obligations under state and
28 federal civil rights laws when they receive such reports and complaints.

29 (4) Recognition, respect, and equal treatment for all student organizations, including
30 all Jewish and religious groups.

1 (5) The collection and annual reporting of data in accordance with state and federal
2 law including the number of antisemitism-related reports and complaints received by the
3 institution from students, faculty, staff, and community members; the number of
4 investigations of antisemitism conducted by or for the postsecondary institution by a third
5 party, a description of the allegations investigated, the determinations made, and all
6 corrective actions taken; and the percentage of Title VI and Title VII complaints received
7 by the institution that involve antisemitism.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the institution shall report such data to the Board
9 of Regents not later than June thirtieth annually through June 30, 2028, and make the data
10 publicly available in accordance with state and federal law on the institution's website and
11 that the Board of Regents shall compile and submit a statewide summary to the House
12 Committee on Education not later than October thirty-first annually through October 31,
13 2028.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the collection, reporting, and disclosure of such
15 data shall be in accordance with state and federal law regarding the collection, maintenance,
16 use, and disclosure of personally identifiable information and that this Resolution shall not
17 be construed to restrict constitutionally protected speech, the freedom of association, or the
18 right to peacefully assemble.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
20 commissioner of higher education, who shall disseminate it to the president of each public
21 postsecondary education system for dissemination to the system's institutions.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 167 Engrossed

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Requests that each public postsecondary education institution develop and implement policies to combat antisemitism on its campus and to report related data over the next three years.