



The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Ste. 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

September 19, 2026

RE: Support for AB 715 (Zbur, Addis) – Protecting Students from Antisemitism and Discrimination in California Schools

Dear Governor Newsom,

The **Northern California Jewish Labor Committee (NCJLC)** writes to express **our unequivocal and urgent support for Assembly Bill 715 (Zbur, Addis)**, a critical and timely measure to confront antisemitic conduct and all forms of discrimination in California's K–12 schools.

NCJLC stands at the intersection of the Jewish and labor communities, united in the pursuit of social and economic justice. AB 715 directly furthers these goals by fostering safe, inclusive, and respectful educational environments for all students across our state.

While Jewish Americans represent just 2.4% of the U.S. population, we continue to be disproportionately targeted by hate. Tragically, this hate is increasingly manifesting in our schools, spaces that should be safe havens for learning and growth. Since October 7, we have witnessed an alarming surge in hostility toward Jewish students, including bullying, harassment, and intimidation. Far too often, school administrators lack the training, tools, or will to respond adequately. This failure endangers students and undermines the trust that families place in our public institutions.

The consequences are deeply troubling. Jewish students are being made to feel unsafe in their classrooms. Families are being forced to make heartbreaking decisions about their children's education and well-being. Communities are fracturing. Lawsuits are being filed. Confidence in public schools is eroding.



We are not alone in experiencing this. Other vulnerable communities have also seen increases in discrimination, and we stand in solidarity with them. But the time for general concern has passed. What is needed now is bold, concrete action.

AB 715 provides that action. It mandates that schools take meaningful steps to prevent and respond to hate-based incidents, enhances district accountability, and establishes a dedicated State Antisemitism Coordinator to lead California's efforts in prevention, education, and response.

This is more than just a bill; it is a national statement. By signing AB 715, you will make California the first state in the nation to directly confront antisemitism in our schools with comprehensive legislation. Your signature will send a clear, unequivocal message: that

California will not tolerate hate in any form, and that all students, including Jewish students, deserve to feel safe, supported, and seen in their classrooms.

The Northern California Jewish Labor Committee urges you in the strongest and most respectful terms: **Sign AB 715. The need is urgent. The moment is now. The cost of inaction is too great.**

Sincerely,

Sue Kahn
Founding Chair/President

Susan Kitchell
Executive Vice President/Secretary

On behalf of the Northern California Jewish Labor Committee