

North Dakota House of Representatives
House Education Committee
Feb. 12, 2025

Chairman Heinert, Vice Chair Schreiber-Beck and members of the House Education Committee,

Thank you for taking up this important issue and for allowing my testimony,

My name is Bette Grande, I am a former legislator of many years in the ND House. I speak to you today from this perspective and on my own behalf.

I support correcting the definition to ensure it is in line with the worldwide definition and the federal government's working definition. Around 40 states have this as the definition in their code as well. See below for language;

Page 1 line 9 after the first Antisemitism strike through line 11 replacing the following:

"Antisemitism" has the same meaning as provided for in the working definition of antisemitism adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) on May 26, 2016, including the "contemporary examples of antisemitism," and incorporated by reference in Presidential Executive Order Number 13899, 84 F.R. 68779 December 11, 2019.

Re-number accordingly.

Page 2 insert a new line 8

g. as well as training on contemporary manifestations of antisemitism.

Re-number accordingly

I also support the amendment offered by Dr. Copas as it offers good clarity.

The ND legislature and our Governors have a long history of support for this issue. We have passed resolutions, proclamations, and legislation to stop the boycott, divestment, and sanction of Israel.

Some will say that it is not necessary to add this to the education curriculum, saying others have been persecuted and other excuses, but least we forget that this is a long suffering and still current issue. The education needs to be continued and clear.

After the attach of Oct. 7, 2023 our Governor proclaimed the following;

[Burgum urges support for Israel after terrorist attack](#)

"The attack by Hamas terrorists on Israel is reprehensible, and the fact it occurred on a Jewish holiday is despicable. We stand with our democratic ally Israel while lifting up in prayer the victims of these horrific attacks," Burgum said. "We also pray for the safe return of the priests and parishioners from North

Dakota congregations who are anxiously waiting to board flights home. Today we reached out to the U.S. State Department and spoke with Father Ackerman, offering to assist however possible to help ensure the safe return of those North Dakotans and all Americans wanting to return to U.S. soil.”

Note that the attach on the Israeli people affected and included North Dakotans, and US citizens. It carries over into all of society.

Much of the problem today is the lack of knowledge and misunderstanding. Now is a good time to break that and ensure the children learn truth and understand.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Blessings,

Bette Grande

District 29