



SR1609

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The first amendment to the Constitution  
3 established the United States as a country committed to the  
4 principles of tolerance and religious freedom, and the 14th  
5 amendment to the Constitution established equal protection of  
6 the laws as the heart of justice in the United States; and

7           WHEREAS, Adherence to these principles is vital to the  
8 progress of the American people and the diverse communities and  
9 religious groups of the United States; and

10           WHEREAS, Whether from the political right, center, or left,  
11 bigotry, discrimination, oppression, and anti-Semitism  
12 threaten American democracy;

13           WHEREAS, Anti-Semitism is the centuries-old bigotry and  
14 form of racism faced by Jewish people simply because they are  
15 Jews; and

16           WHEREAS, The appalling rise of hate speech and  
17 anti-Semitism across the country calls on all who value  
18 diversity, respect, and civility as the heart of a functioning  
19 democracy to stand united against bigotry and hate of all  
20 kinds; and

1           WHEREAS, There was a 37% increase in anti-Semitic incidents  
2 reported to the FBI between 2016-2017; and

3           WHEREAS, There were 1,564 religious-based incidents  
4 reported to the FBI in 2017, the second-highest level since  
5 statistics have been gathered; and

6           WHEREAS, On January 6, 2021, a gathering at the U.S.  
7 Capitol building inflicted atrocious vandalism and destruction  
8 at one of our nation's most sacred symbols of democracy, as  
9 well as caused the tragic death of a U.S. Capitol Police  
10 officer and the assault and injury of countless others; and

11           WHEREAS, This gathering drew hate groups from across the  
12 nation, many of whom brandished symbols of anti-Semitism as  
13 they invaded the building and threatened violence against  
14 lawmakers, staff, security guards, and other federal employees  
15 and against our very democracy; and

16           WHEREAS, The gathering has since spurred threats on state  
17 capitols, resulting in additional security measures here in the  
18 Illinois Capitol Complex; and

19           WHEREAS, The day before this horrific event, U.S.  
20 Congresswoman Mary Miller invoked Adolf Hitler's obscene  
21 methods for indoctrinating children by stating "whoever has

1 youth has the future," with racism and fascism as a guidepost  
2 to ignite hate and violence; and

3 WHEREAS, An elected official, whether a member of congress  
4 or a state assembly, should be held to a higher standard; and

5 WHEREAS, Mary Miller should realize the pain her remarks  
6 caused for members of the Jewish community for whom the horrors  
7 of 6 million murdered Jews, of which 1.5 million were children,  
8 experienced at the hands of Nazi Germany strike at the core of  
9 the holocaust and elicit one of the darkest moments of history;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The Illinois Jewish Legislative Caucus responded  
12 to this insensitive and disturbing remark by calling for Mary  
13 Miller's resignation in an online petition that has currently  
14 over 25,000 signatures; and

15 WHEREAS, Our legislative body must rise together against  
16 bigotry and refuse to accept hatred as our nation's new normal;  
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we condemn the hateful  
20 remarks of U.S. Congresswoman Mary Miller; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we condemn anti-Semitic statements and acts  
2 as hateful expressions of intolerance; and be it further

3           RESOLVED, That we reject attempts to justify hate speech or  
4 violent attacks as an acceptable expression; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That we encourage all State, local, and federal  
6 officials to confront the reality of anti-Semitism,  
7 hate-speech, and other forms of bigotry; and be it further

8           RESOLVED, That words matter, more so when they are spoken  
9 by a public official and when those words incite hate groups to  
10 action; and be it further

11           RESOLVED, That we call on the U.S. House of Representatives  
12 to formally censure Congresswoman Miller for her remarks and  
13 insensitive, reprehensible, anti-Semitic rhetoric; and be it  
14 further

15           RESOLVED, That we stand in solidarity against hate,  
16 bigotry, and anti-Semitic rhetoric of all kinds; and be it  
17 further

18           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 delivered to the U.S. Congress, the President of the United  
20 States, and the Vice-President of the United States on January

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