

Testimony in Support of HB1452

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Higher Education - Antihate and Antidiscrimination
Policies and Workgroup
The Maryland Campus Accountability and Modernization to
Protect University Students (CAMPUS)
House Appropriations Committee
March 5, 2025

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TO: Del Ben Barnes, Chair, Del. Mar S. Chang, Vice Chair FROM: Nancy Braverman and Barbara Deitch, Co-Presidents

Hadassah Greater Baltimore

On behalf of the Greater Baltimore Region of Hadassah, representing over 4,100 Marylanders, we are writing to urge you to **vote FOR House Bill 1452 - The Maryland Campus Accountability and Modernization to Protect University Students (CAMPUS) Act.**

College campuses have become hotbeds of hateful rhetoric, where antisemitic tropes and conspiracy theories are voiced in student and classroom interactions. Jewish students, faculty and staff are being targeted and shut out of campus activities.

It is critical that institutions of higher education in Maryland are required to adopt and enforce antihate and anti-discrimination policies. This bill defines requirements for time, place, and manner for how student express themselves; requires institutions of higher education to conduct certain meetings with certain approved student organizations; and establishes the Campus Community Grant Program and the Workgroup on Combating Antisemitism, Islamophobia, and Other Forms of Racial, Ethnic, and Religious Violence, Harassment, and Intimidation.

As seen in Hadassah's recently released report, <u>From Fear to Resilience: Women Facing Antisemitism</u>, the recent upsurge in antisemitism in our country deeply affects our daily sense of security and safety, and heightens the need to counter this scourge. Two-thirds of the Jewish women we surveyed said antisemitism is affecting their lives, relationships and work, and prompting some to drop out of school.

Hadassah is committed to fighting antisemitism on college campuses, online, in our communities and around the world through empowerment and education and we urge the committee for a favorable report on HB1452.

Thank you,
Nancy Braverman and Barbara Deitch
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