

**Testimony in Support of HB324  
County Boards of Education - Antibias Training for Members -  
Requirement (County) Board Member Antibias Training Act)  
House Ways & Means Committee  
January 29, 2025**

**FAVORABLE**

TO: Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair, Jheanelle K. Wilkins, 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 324 - County Boards of Education - Antibias Training for Members - Requirement (County Board Member Antibias Training Act)**

This bill will require each member of a county board of education to complete antibias training at least once during the member's term to combat prejudices faced by various groups, as well as historically marginalized religious minorities, to include antisemitism.

It is important to equip our education leaders with the tools they need to understand and properly teach this material to their students.

The disturbing explosion of antisemitism in our country — and here in Maryland — underscores the need to teach our children about this heinous chapter in world history. It is critical that students receive a complete and accurate evidence based training of the Holocaust and the grave dangers of prejudice. Especially since the October 7, 2023 Hamas invasion of Israel, antisemitism and Holocaust denialism are rampant.

As seen in Hadassah's recently released report, *From Fear to Resilience: Women Facing Antisemitism*, 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 with an accurate history of the Holocaust. Two-thirds of the Jewish women we surveyed said antisemitism is affecting their lives, relationships and work.

One of the best ways to prevent history from repeating itself is through proper education and and Hadassah urges the committee for a favorable report on HB324.

Thank you,  
Nancy Braverman and Barbara Deitch  
Co-Presidents, Hadassah Greater Baltimore  
P.O. Box 21571  
Pikesville, MD 21282-1571  
Nbraverman@hadassah.org  
Bdeitch@hadassah.org  
P 410.484.9590