

**Testimony in Support of HB0071  
Holocaust Education Assistance Grant Program  
House Ways & Means Committee  
January 23, 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 0071 - the Holocaust Education Assistance Grant Program.**

This bill will establish a grant assistance program dedicated to Holocaust Education in the State Department of Education to assist local school systems to teach the Holocaust in public schools.

It is important to equip our teachers with the tools they need to understand and properly teach this material to their students, and this grant funding is key to the professional development and materials needed to make this happen.

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 history 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 Hadassah urges the committee for a favorable report on HB0071.

Thank you,  
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