

# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.R. 73-14

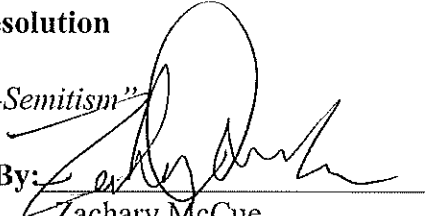
Texas A&M University  
The Student Senate  
73rd Session

## Condemnation of Anti-Semitism Resolution

Action Taken:

PASSED

Certified By:

  
Zachary McCue  
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

**Introduced By:** Joshua Eric Feldman, Legislative Relations Chair, Off-Campus Caucus  
Chandler Trosclair, On-Campus Caucus

**Sponsored By:** Hannah Spurr, Speaker Pro Tempore, Off Campus Caucus  
Zach McCue, Speaker of Senate, Off Campus Caucus  
Meghan Hein, Rules and Regulations Chair  
Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair  
John Carter Teague, Finance Chair  
Michael McKnight, Off-Campus Caucus  
Joseph Balmain Rodgers, Off-Campus Caucus

**Whereas(1):** In the past few months, incidents of Anti-Semitism have been increasingly on the rise. This summer, with many Aggies no longer present in College Station and currently residing at home, many members of our Jewish Aggie community have been experiencing and continue to experience profound Anti-Semitism throughout the United States; and,

**Whereas(2):** Jewish Aggie leaders and liaisons such as former Constituency Affairs Chair and current IFC President Colton Mandel, former Rules and Regulations Chair and current Associate Justice Evan Berger, and former Legislative relations chair and current Aggie AIPAC Campus Liaison John Ryan Rodriguez came together to join the authors and senators in acknowledging and taking a call to action against the rampant Anti-semitism occurring within our current society today, and join our senators in calls to address Anti-semitism on campus and within our daily lives; and,



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 2 of 9 Further Certified By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary McCue".

Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

- Whereas(2):** The resurgence of Anti-Semitism remains a threat to all freedom-loving people, and strikes at the heart of the American character, ideals, and the Aggie Core Values, which vehemently opposes racism and Anti-Semitism; and,
- Whereas(3):** According to current statistics from the FBI and the United States Government on hate crimes, 57.8% of all religious hate crimes within the United States are directed at Jewish minorities, which only make up an estimated 1.5% of the United States population, representing a massive disparity; and,<sup>1</sup>
- Whereas(4):** Within 2020 alone, over 3,566 incidences of anti-semitism have been reported, this includes: 11 extremist murders, 14 terrorist plots and attacks<sup>2</sup>, among a plethora of other incidents that have made national headlines; with the Anti-Defamation League reporting that incidents of Anti-Semitism have risen by 57% since 2017<sup>3</sup>; and,
- Whereas (5):** In 2019, the Anti Defamation League tabulated 2,107 antisemitic incidents, which represented a 12% increase from incidents that were reported in 2018. This is the highest number on record since the ADL began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979, with over 186 incidents at colleges and universities in 2019<sup>4</sup>; and,
- Whereas(6):** Some major recent examples of these egregious and disgusting acts include: the Anti-Semetic vandalism at a Holocaust memorial in Nashville Tennessee in June<sup>5</sup>, the fatal Pittsburgh shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue which killed 11 people last year<sup>6</sup>, Anti-Racism protesters in Paris chanting Anti-Semitic language in June

<sup>1</sup> Federal Bureau of investigation, Incidents and offenses. (2019, October 29). Retrieved July 07, 2020, from <https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2018/topic-pages/incidents-and-offenses>

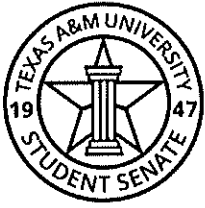
<sup>2</sup> ADL H.E.A.T. MAP. (n.d.). Retrieved July 08, 2020, from <https://www.adl.org/education-and-resources/resource-knowledge-base/adl-hate-map?s=eyJpZGVvbG9naWVzIjpbXSwiaW5jaWRlbnRzIjpbXSwieWVhcnI6WzIwMjAsMjAyMF19>

<sup>3</sup> Anti-Semitic incidents SURGED nearly 60% in 2017, according to New ADL Report. (n.d.). Retrieved July 07, 2020, from <https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/anti-semitic-incidents-surged-nearly-60-in-2017-according-to-new-adl-report>

<sup>4</sup> Antisemitic incidents hit all-time high in 2019. (n.d.). Retrieved July 07, 2020, from <https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/antisemitic-incidents-hit-all-time-high-in-2019>

<sup>5</sup> Hineman. (2020, June 16). Nashville police investigate anti-Semitic vandalism AT Holocaust memorial. Retrieved July 07, 2020, from <https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/crime/2020/06/16/nashville-police-investigate-anti-semitic-graffiti-holocaust-memorial/3196778001/>

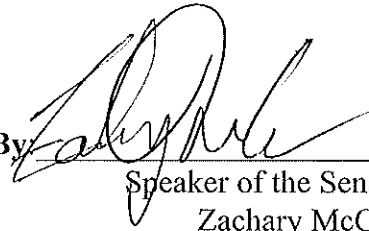
<sup>6</sup> Drury. (2018, October 28). Pittsburgh shooting suspect Posted stream of anti-Semitic hate online in months – and moments – before attack. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 3 of 9 Further Certified By



Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

<sup>7</sup>, a University of Texas at Austin professor who was recently fired from the university for Anti-Semitic tweets that were directly calling for violence against Jews<sup>8</sup>, the string of Anti-Semitic murders and attacks in New York last December<sup>9</sup>, New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio's Anti-Semitic tweet accusing the Jewish minority of spreading COVID-19 in March<sup>10</sup>, the calls for Florida State Student Senate President's resignation after making anti-Semitic social media posts<sup>11</sup>, Philadelphia Eagles player Desean Jackson quoting Adolf Hitler and known anti-Semite Louis Farrakhan on July 6th propagating a conspiracy theory that Jews are controlling the world and people of Jewish descent are not actually "Jewish<sup>12</sup>," Rapper "Ice Cube's" Anti-semitic photos, statements, and comments he has recently tweeted out<sup>13</sup>, NBA veteran Stephen Jackson's Anti-semitic videos, tweets, and comments over the course of the past few days accusing Jews of controlling the world and other people's free will<sup>14</sup>, Nick Cannon stating that Jews "control the world" and propagated a conspiracy theory that Jewish people are not actually "Jewish;" a Tik-Tok trend where influencers pretended to be Holocaust

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/pittsburgh-shooting-jewish-synagogue-gunman-anti-semitic-online-posts-before-attack-a8605186.html>

<sup>7</sup> Edmunds, D., & Sharon, J. (2020, June 15). Anti-racism protesters in Paris YELL 'dirty Jews' AT COUNTER-PROTESTERS. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from

<https://www.ipost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/anti-racism-protesters-in-paris-yell-dirty-jews-at-counter-protesters-631379>

<sup>8</sup> University of Texas distances itself From Antisemitic Professor. (2020, July 04). Retrieved July 08, 2020, from

<https://www.stopantisemitism.org/antisemitic-incidents-39/university-of-texas-distances-from-antisemitic-professor>

<sup>9</sup> Kunzelman, M., & Geberer, R. (2020, May 13). Persistent anti-Semitic attacks in brooklyn mirror National rise in incidents. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from

<https://brooklyneagle.com/articles/2020/05/13/persistent-anti-semitic-attacks-in-brooklyn-mirror-national-rise-in-incidents/>

<sup>10</sup> Blasio. (2020, April 29). My message to the Jewish community, and all communities, is this simple: The time for warnings has passed. I have instructed the NYPD to proceed immediately TO summons or even arrest those who gather in large groups. This is about stopping this disease and saving lives. Period. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from

[https://twitter.com/NYCMayor/status/1255309615883063297?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctvcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctvtterm%5E1255309615883063297%7Ctvtgr%5E&ref\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fus-news%2F2020%2Fapr%2F29%2Fnew-york-mayor-de-blasio-criticized-tweet-packed-jewish-funeral](https://twitter.com/NYCMayor/status/1255309615883063297?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctvcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctvtterm%5E1255309615883063297%7Ctvtgr%5E&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fus-news%2F2020%2Fapr%2F29%2Fnew-york-mayor-de-blasio-criticized-tweet-packed-jewish-funeral)

<sup>11</sup> Kerstein. (2020). Fury at Florida State university after new Student senate President's antisemitic Statements Revealed.

Retrieved July 08, 2020, from

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/06/16/fury-at-florida-state-university-after-new-student-senate-presidents-antisemitic-statements-revealed/>

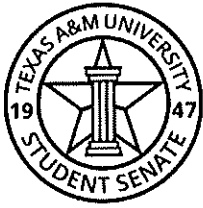
<sup>12</sup> Joyce, G. (2020, July 07). DeSean Jackson POSTS Anti-semitic quotes attributed to Adolf Hitler. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from <https://nypost.com/2020/07/07/desean-jackson-posts-anti-semitic-quotes-attributed-to-adolf-hitler/>

<sup>13</sup> Kaufman. (2020, June 11). Ice cube criticized for posting Anti-Semitic Images. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from

<https://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/hip-hop/9400472/ice-cube-criticized-anti-semitic-images-conspiracy-theories>

<sup>14</sup> Reimer. (2020, July 08). Stephen Jackson Sadly doubles down ON anti-semitism in Abhorrent Instagram video. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alexreimer/2020/07/08/stephen-jackson-sadly-doubles-down-on-anti-semitism-in-abhorrent-instagram-video/#85e759a152a3>



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 4 of 9 Further Certified By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary McCue", written over a horizontal line.

Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

survivors, the arson and destruction of a Chabad synagogue in Delaware a week ago, The vandalism of a New Mexico Holocaust Museum on August 5<sup>th</sup><sup>15</sup>, Indiana High School students forming a human Swastika and utilizing Nazi salutes in late August<sup>16</sup>, a bomb threat at a Virginia synagogue on August 21<sup>st</sup><sup>17</sup>, a South Carolina Holocaust Memorial was vandalized in late July<sup>18</sup>, the resignation of USC's Student Government Vice President due to Anti-Semitic bullying<sup>19</sup>, an Anti-Semitic banner hung over the 405 Freeway in Los Angeles on August 22<sup>nd</sup><sup>20</sup>, a bomb threat at Brandeis University on August 20<sup>th</sup><sup>21</sup>, the vandalization of a West Hollywood Synagogue in early August<sup>22</sup>, and "Hitler was right flyers" posted throughout Arizona State University on August 31<sup>st</sup><sup>23</sup>; and,

**Whereas (7):** Acts of Anti-semitism have occurred within our Aggie family, including Professor Filipe Castro at Texas A&M University, who has made racist statements towards Jews and other religions, stating: Jews (specifically those who reside in Israel) are "savages," and "animals," and in a separate post, stated that Israel (while implying specifically Jews) will "kill us all," Castro posted on Facebook that a majority of Zionists want to continue Hitler's work of genocide, and has implied that pastors, rabbis, and imams are the instigators of racism in America. In addition to this he has made offensive and disgusting statements such as: "make the last rabbi eat the last priest and then hang him with the last entrails of the last imam." Other anti-semitic incidents include: Anti-semitic messages within the West Campus Garage tunnel last year, a Jewish senator having Anti-semitic comments directed to them on numerous occasions, propagating the anti-semitic conspiracy theory that Jewish people run the world, the relegation of the Jewish minority to nothing but a religion, a disregard for the presence of Jewish minorities, and the utilization of common Jewish stereotypes, Jewish students having their muzuas ripped off their doors, and numerous other reported acts of

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.kob.com/albuquerque-news/new-mexico-holocaust-museum-hit-by-vandalism/5817266/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.the-sun.com/news/1363379/indiana-high-school-students-form-swastika-nazi-salute/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/bomb-threat-left-virginia-synagogues-voicemail-639959>

<sup>18</sup> <https://abcnews4.com/news/local/holocaust-memorial-in-marion-square-vandalized-says-charleston-jewish-federation>

<sup>19</sup> <https://campusreform.org/?ID=15417>

<sup>20</sup> <https://la.adl.org/news/anti-semitic-banner-hung-over-405-freeway/>

<sup>21</sup> <https://patch.com/massachusetts/waltham/bomb-threat-brandeis-university-waltham>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.stopantisemitism.org/antisemitic-incidents-44/west-hollywood-synagogue-vandalized-with-antisemitic-graffiti>

<sup>23</sup> <https://forward.com/fast-forward/453629/hitler-was-right-fliers-posted-at-arizona-state-university/>



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 5 of 9 Further Certified By

Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

Anti-semitism throughout campus; and,<sup>24</sup>

**Whereas (8):** One only must look at any of the articles of information provided within this resolution to find open anti-semitism, whether it be within the comments, on social media, in-person, or in other direct and indirect forms, it is self-evident that anti-semitism is on the rise, and becoming more commonplace of a belief system both in the United States and abroad; and,

**Whereas (9):** The United States Government defines Anti-semitism as:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust)

<sup>24</sup> “Filipe Castro .” *Professor Watchlist*, Professor Watchlist Project, Turning Point USA, a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization, 2020, <https://professorwatchlist.org/professor/filipecastro>



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 6 of 9 Further Certified By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary McCue", written over a horizontal line.

Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

**Antisemitic acts are criminal** when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

**Criminal acts are antisemitic** when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

**Antisemitic discrimination** is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries<sup>25</sup>

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

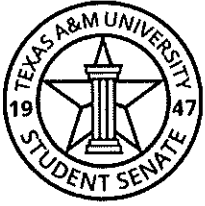
**Resolved(1):** The Texas A&M Student Senate adopts this definition of Anti-Semitism as stated above from the United States Department of State and vows to maintain that all Jewish students at Texas A&M are welcomed to an open and safe environment that is free from racism and anti-semitism; and,

**Let it be**

**Further**

**Resolved(2):** The Texas A&M Student Senate condemns any act of anti-semitism, and stands with our Jewish Aggie brothers and sisters in defiance of this hate; and,

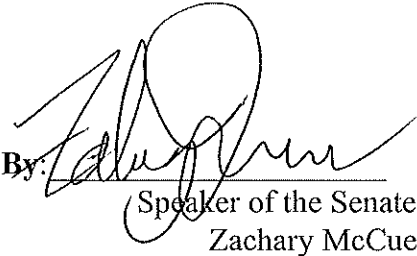
<sup>25</sup> Office Of International Religious Freedom. (2020, March 06). Defining anti-semitism - United States Department Of State. Retrieved July 08, 2020, from <https://www.state.gov/defining-anti-semitism/>



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 7 of 9 Further Certified By:

  
Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(3):** We are justifiably angered that Anti-Semitism is increasing drastically worldwide, and would implore that education based on rising Anti-semitism be incorporated into diversity training, through education on the definition of Anti-semitism, education on the Holocaust, and highlighting the overwhelming amount of disproportionate hate such a small percentage of the United States population receives; and,

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(4):** The Texas A&M Student Senate encourages The Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the Diversity Commission to explore steps to reduce Anti-Semitism on campus and within the Bryan-College station area, and educate on the history of anti-semitism and the dangers its resurgence presents in the contemporary period, including education on the Holocaust and its horrors into its regular curriculum; and,

Let it be

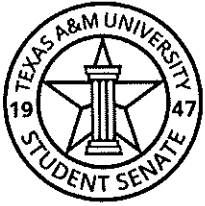
Further

**Resolved(5):** We maintain the expectation that all Aggies must treat one-another with decency, uphold the aggie core values, and hold one-another accountable for their actions; and,

Let it be

Further

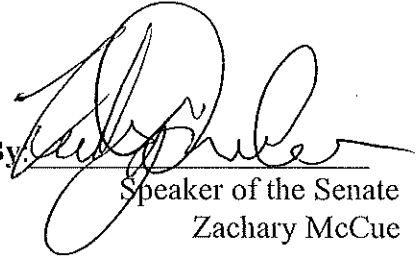
**Resolved(6):** Aggies are not Anti-semitic, they do not condone Anti-semitism, they do not stand idly by while Anti-semitism is occurring, they do not allow other Aggies to promote Anti-semitic ideas and values, and they most importantly, do not allow hatred and persecution to continue and will stand strong against Anti-semitism to ensure the genocide and persecution of a race of people will never occur again.



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 8 of 9 Further Certified By



Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

Let it be

Further

**Resolved(7):** A copy of this resolution be sent to:

*Chancellor John Sharp*

*President Michael K. Young*

*Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs*

*The Eagle*

*The Battalion*

*The Anti Defamation League*

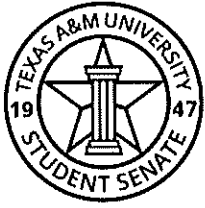
*The Texas A&M Chabad Jewish Student Center (Rabbi Yossi Lazaroff)*

*The Texas A&M Hillel Jewish Student Center (Risa Bierman)*

*Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair*

*Lily Pieper, Diversity Commissioner*

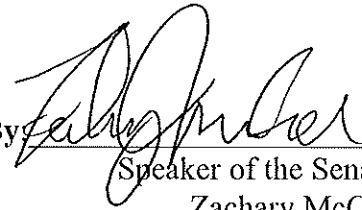




# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

Senate Resolution S.R. 73-14 – Page 9 of 9 Further Certified By



Speaker of the Senate  
Zachary McCue

**Further Sponsored By:** Aaron Wood, Engineering Caucus

Kieran Tillis, Engineering Caucus

Cole Allen, Mays Business Caucus

Colette Jones, Vet Med and Biomedical Sciences Caucus

Brogan Gunia, Off Campus Caucus

Garrett Lindsey, Transition Academic Programs Caucus

Carly Oldag, Community Relations Chair, C.O.A.L.S Caucus

Dylan Flores, Off Campus Caucus

Dylan Bohn, Mays Business Caucus

Clayton Elbel, Off Campus Caucus

Victor Ferro, Engineering Caucus

Jordan Vick, Liberal Arts Caucus

Chad Roche, Off Campus Caucus

Craig Staples, Off Campus Caucus

Paige Wirth, College of Geosciences

Corniyah Bradley, Off Campus Caucus

Nate Ames, Corps of Cadets Caucus

Mikayla Nasis, On Campus Caucus

Michael Garcia, Off Campus Caucus