

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1003

TITLE: Resolution to Recognize and Promote the Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate Campaign

AUTHOR(S): Judiciary Chairman Sean Harkins, Senator Haley Rubin, Senator Mason Solomon

SPONSORS: Senate President Olivia Green, Senate President Pro-Tempore Catherine Giordano, Rules and Ethics Chairwoman Liliana Clark, Majority Party Leader Blake Cox, Judiciary Vice Chairwoman Sidney Ruedas, Senator Shelby Schultz, Senator Matthew Reich, Senator Clayton Bush, Senator Ethan Ghozali, Senator Joah Levine, Senator Mara Vaknin, Senator John Brinkman, Senator Brendan Kligerman, Senator Aaron Amster, Senator Danny Kopelman, Senator Saketh Damera, Senator Wilson Roberts, Information and Communications Chairwoman Phoebe Funai

WHEREAS, Antisemitic incidents are being reported at record levels and recently have targeted Jewish students at the University of Florida when the phrase “Kanye was right about the Jews” was projected onto the TIAA Bank field on October 29, 2022 [1][2]; and,

WHEREAS, Extremists and antisemites perpetrate deadly violence against Jews, as crimes targeting the Jewish community consistently constitute over half of all religion-based crimes, in 2020 there were 683 reported hate crimes against the Jewish people [2]; and,

WHEREAS, The “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” campaign was founded by UF Hillel in January of 2020 to combat Antisemitism and all forms of hate on the University of Florida campus and surrounding communities [3]; and,

WHEREAS, Every year, the campaign hosts a “Bagel Day” event in which volunteers encourage members of the UF community to sign a pledge against Antisemitism and acts of hate [3]; and,

WHEREAS, On January 18, 2023, volunteers for the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” campaign will be tabling at various locations on campus to ask individuals to sign the pledge and hand out free bagels [3]; and,

WHEREAS, UF Hillel was awarded the 2022 Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz Innovation Award for the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” initiative from Hillel International [4]; and,

WHEREAS, Individuals who sign the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” pledge are recognized on the UF Hillel website for their commitment to fighting Antisemitism [3]; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, the University of Florida Student Senate remains committed to fighting Antisemitism and all forms of hate on campus, and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes and honors the efforts of the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” campaign for protecting the interests and wellbeing of all Jewish students, faculty, and administrators at the University of Florida, and,

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, the University of Florida Student Senate stands strong in their support for the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” campaign and greatly encourages the student body to sign the pledge to commit to combating the rise of Antisemitism on campus.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President W. Kent Fuchs, Vice President of Student Life Dr. Heather White, Chief Diversity Officer Dr. Marsha McGriff, UF Hillel Rabbi Jonah Zinn, UF Hillel Chief Advancement Officer Jamie Zinn, Interim Dean of Students Dr. Jonathan Yorkowitz, Student Director for Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate Aedyn Gorenberg, Jewish Student Union President Sam Hendler, UF Hillel Chief Program Officer Stefani Rozen.

[1] <https://www.news4jax.com/sports/2022/10/30/shad-khan-on-antisemitic-rhetoric-in-jacksonville-lets-stop-it/>

[2] <https://www.adl.org/resources/blog/six-facts-about-threats-jewish-community>

[3] <https://www.ufhillel.org/bagelday>

[4] <https://www.hillel.org/honoring-incredible-hillel-professionals/?af=&gs=>