

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1032

TITLE: Resolution to Recognize the Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate Program of 2025

AUTHOR(S): Senator Freddi Rappoport

SPONSOR(S): Judiciary Chairman Aaron Rubaii, Senate President Blake Cox, Senator Mia Filoramo, Senator Kate McNamara, Senator Madelyn Karmelek, Senator Maddie Seifer, Senator Emma Jabbour, Senator Anthony Boullousa, Senator Joshua Johnson, Senator Anjani Sharma, Senator Emma Fullerton, Senator Ella Furman, Senate President Pro-Tempore Julia Seifer, Senator Natalie Ewbank, Senator Rachel Krutchik, Senator Ava Rathet, Senator Katelyn Zervoudakis, Senator Jake Runyon, Senator Jack Gregg, Senator Matthew Milton Bravo, Senator Gabi Prieto, Senator Sydney Weinberger, Majority Party Leader Maya Idiculla, Senator Caroline Botts, Senator Aleah Henley, Senator Lexie Trower, Senator Josh Yaciuk, Senator Arshan Falasiri, Senator Caroline Schapansky, Senator Abigail Melamed, Senator Jordan Antevy, Senator Molly Murphy, Senator Laura Jane Bryan, Senator Jocelyn Riley, Senator Sara Rodriguez, Senator Marian Enriquez, Senator Marco Salvador, Senator Jordan Levitt, Senator Andrew Sabadash, Senator Raylynn Adcock, Senator Noor Golesorkhi, Senator Cassie Urbenz, Senator Kate Frinfrock, Senator Maximo Toledo, Senator Tyler Schoeberlein, Senator Lexi Bazen, Deputy Majority Party Leader Cole Bennett, Senator Emma Gaul, Senator Priya Majethia, Information and Communications Chairwoman Krystal Felix, Senator Nolan Carpenter

WHEREAS, more than 10,000 antisemitic incidents have been reported in the United States following the events of October 7th, 2023 [1]; and,

WHEREAS, this is the highest number of antisemitic incidents recorded in a single year since the Anti-Defamation League began tracking in 1979, [1]; and,

WHEREAS, there has been a 200% increase in antisemitic incidents when compared to the year prior to October 7th, 2023, [1]; and;

WHEREAS, there has been a 500% increase in antisemitic incidents occurring on college campuses when compared to the same period a year prior, [1]; and;

WHEREAS, since October 7th, over 2,000 of these antisemitic incidents specifically targeted Jewish institutions such as synagogues and Jewish centers, [1]; and;

WHEREAS, the Anti-Defamation League has recorded more than 1,200 antisemitic incidents since October 7th on college and university campuses, [2]; and,

WHEREAS, 83% of Jewish college students have experienced or witnessed antisemitism firsthand following the events of October 7th, 2023, [3]; and,

WHEREAS, 41% of Jewish college students feel the need to hide their Jewish identity on college campuses, [3]; and,

WHEREAS, antisemitic incidents are being reported at record levels and 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 29th, 2022 during the annual Florida-Georgia football game [4], [5]; and,

WHEREAS, the Chabad University of Florida Jewish Student center was vandalized with anti-Semitic graffiti and hateful slurs, further targeting Jewish students at the University of Florida, in December of 2023, [6]; and,

WHEREAS, the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” program was started by UF Hillel in January 2020 to combat the exponential increase in instances of antisemitism and all forms of hate on the University of Florida campus and nationwide, [7]; and,

WHEREAS, every year, the program hosts a “Bagel Day” event in which volunteers encourage members of the UF community to sign a pledge against antisemitism and acts of hate [7]; and,

WHEREAS, on January 29th, 2025, volunteers for the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” program tabled at various locations on campus to ask individuals to sign the pledge while handing out free bagels [7]; and,

WHEREAS, UF Hillel was awarded the 2022 Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz Innovation Award for the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” initiative from Hillel International [8]; 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 [7]; and,

WHEREAS, the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” pledge successfully collected 6,500 signatures (as of January 30th, 2025) [7]; and,

WHEREAS, the current number of signatures on the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” pledge increased by over 1,300 compared to the 2024 program [7]; and,

WHEREAS, the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” program successfully garnered 110 student and campus organizations to support the program as designated “Campus Partners,” [7]; and,

WHEREAS, the number of “Campus Partners” for the “Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate” program increased by 48 from the 2024 program [7]; then,

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

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

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

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Executive Director of UF Hillel Rabbi Jonah Zinn, UF Hillel Chief Advancement Officer Jamie Zinn, Director of Chabad UF Rabbi Berl Goldman, University of Florida Student Body President John Brinkman, Overall Chair of Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate Ceci Edelberg, Jewish Student Union President Sara Beer,

[1] <https://www.adl.org/resources/press-release/over-10000-antisemitic-incidents-recorded-us-oct-7-2023-according-adl>

[2] <https://www.adl.org/resources/report/campus-antisemitism-one-year-after-hamas-terrorist-attacks>

[3] <https://www.adl.org/resources/press-release/83-jewish-college-students-have-experienced-or-witnessed-antisemitism>

[4] <https://abcnews.go.com/US/antisemitic-message-referencing-kanye-west-displayed-florida-georgia/story?id=92387005>

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

[6] <https://www.gainesville.com/story/news/local/2023/12/01/man-accused-in-uf-chabad-antisemitic-vandalism-has-been-arrested/71770394007/>

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

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



Blake Cox
Senate President

2/18/25

Date