

RESOLUTION

SPECIAL 1

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the National Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) have scheduled a conference for November 16-18 at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) which undoubtedly will promote anti-Semitism; and

WHEREAS, according to recent news accounts SJP members have posted violent anti-Semitic rhetoric on social media, ranging from calling for the annihilation of the Jewish people, to admiration of Adolf Hitler and hateful calls to 'kill Jews' 'kill all Zionists' and 'let's stuff some Jews in the oven'; and

WHEREAS, the National SJP's website would fall under the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism that was recently adopted by the State Department, such as comparing Israel to the Nazis; and

WHEREAS, this conference will not be open to all students: only those who have been "verified and vouched for" by SJP or another pro-Palestinian group on campus would be allowed to attend, meaning that most Jewish students would not be allowed to attend the conference; and

WHEREAS, a public university should not allow any group to implement a litmus test for event participation on their campus based on an attendee's beliefs, religion, or national origin; and


WHEREAS, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in federally assisted programs or activities; and this includes protecting students from anti-Semitism and preventing discrimination against most Jews in admissions to a conference held on a public university campus; and

WHEREAS, while UCLA has a responsibility to allow freedom of speech, our campuses should never become an environment where Jewish students are harassed, bullied, or prohibited from learning; and

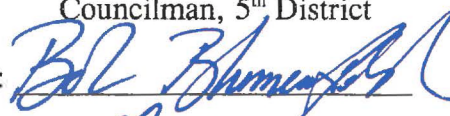
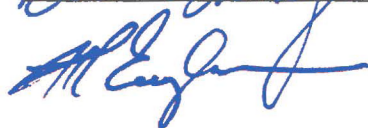
WHEREAS, the Regents of the University of California should let UCLA know that it is not appropriate for SJP to have a meeting on campus especially where many of the leaders of the organization are calling for violence against Jews; it is never a good time to have this type of event, but given the atmosphere in the country, including the recent shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue and arson at synagogues in New York, it is inappropriate for UCLA to host such a conference;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2017-2018 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for any administrative action which would cancel and ban the National Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) conference scheduled for November 16-18, 2018 at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

PRESENTED BY:


PAUL KORETZ
Councilman, 5th District

SECONDED BY:

November 6, 2018
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