

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 21-025

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM

WHEREAS, the first amendment to the US Constitution guarantees all people the right to free expression of religion; and

WHEREAS, religious freedom is a hallmark of the western tradition and an ideal held close to the hearts of Americans; and

WHEREAS, antisemitism is a unique form of religious and racial discrimination with a long and horrific history across the globe; and

WHEREAS, antisemitism manifests in many ways from violence and physical destruction to the propagation of myths about Jewish people; and

WHEREAS, there is a painful history of antisemitism in the United States which includes violent attacks, refusal of home ownership, campaigns to boycott Jewish businesses, and unequal access to justice under the law; and

WHEREAS, claims of dual loyalty to the United States and Israel and other dangerous stereotypes further a false narrative and make Jewish people targets of hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, according to the Anti-Defamation League's Center on Extremism, there has been a disturbing increase in antisemitism in the United States since 2015 and reached a peak high recently following the escalation of violence in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, antisemitic hate has publicly reared its ugly head in Snohomish County with painted swastikas appearing in Edmonds and Tulalip and an assault on a Jewish person at a rally in Seattle;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT, the Snohomish County Council condemns acts of antisemitism and rejects harmful stereotypes of Jewish people including claims of dual loyalty and foreign allegiance; and

THAT, the Snohomish County Council stands in solidarity with the Jewish community in Snohomish County against hate; and

THAT, the Snohomish County Council reaffirms the right to free religious expression in Snohomish County.

Council Vice-Chair

Nate Nehring

Councilmember

APPROVED this 2nd day of June, 2021

Stephanie Wright Council Chair

Sam Low
Councilmember

Councilmember

ATTEST: /) K

Elena Lao, CMC

Asst. Clerk of the Council