



SR0225

LRB100 11698 MST 22665 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In the first two months of 2017, anti-Semitic events have been on the rise throughout the United States; these events are attempts to incite fear and disrupt daily life in peaceful communities; and

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WHEREAS, This trend has been seen in Illinois when The Loop Synagogue in Chicago was vandalized in early February with broken windows and anti-Semitic graffiti that included swastikas; and

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WHEREAS, The Chesed Shel Emeth Society cemetery near St. Louis, Missouri, which dates back to the late 1800s, was vandalized over the President's Day weekend with more than 150 tombstones damaged or toppled over, an example of a long-standing, anti-Semitic practice of desecrating cemeteries; and

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WHEREAS, One week later, the Mount Carmel Jewish Cemetery in northeastern Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was vandalized with as many as 500 headstones knocked over or damaged; and

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WHEREAS, A bomb threat was made to the Hyde Park Jewish Community Center, one of more than 50 phoned threats to these facilities in cities across the nation in recent weeks; and

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1 WHEREAS, In spite of actions taken against groups based on
2 race, religion, or ethnic origin in our country's history,
3 America has always come together to denounce and overcome hate
4 and stand united for tolerance and inclusion; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we condemn these acts
7 of hate and fear, that we will respond to this latest wave of
8 threats with love and assistance to victims of these acts, and
9 that we will work tirelessly as individuals and a legislative
10 body to encourage peace and acceptance in every community in
11 our great State.