



# California Senate Republican Caucus

Kelly Seyarto  
Caucus Chair

Brian W. Jones, Senate Minority Leader

January 22, 2024

Senator Scott Wiener and Assemblyman Gabriel  
Co-Chairs, Legislative Jewish Caucus  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Brian Dahle  
Shannon Grove  
Janet Nguyen  
Roger W. Niello  
Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh  
Scott Wilk

Dear Senator Wiener and Assemblyman Gabriel:

We write to express our unwavering support for and solidarity with the Jewish community during these difficult times. We thank the Jewish Caucus for the comprehensive and important insight provided in your recent letter, which shed light on the many challenges faced by the Jewish community, from the trauma on October 7<sup>th</sup> to escalating concerns of widespread acts of antisemitism in America. Your dedication to educating the Legislature and the public on these pressing issues is crucial. We stand firmly with you as allies in these critical times. We must understand that this crisis is not just of atrocious terrorist acts half way around the world; it is also happening here in our own backyards.

**We unequivocally condemn the heinous attacks perpetrated by Hamas on October 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope and pray for the safe and immediate return of all hostages. Our support for Israel and the Jewish people remains resolute. We join in prayers for peace in the region, aspiring to a future where Gaza is free from Hamas.**

Since the attack, the Jewish community has been enduring not only the profound loss of life in Israel, but also facing an alarming surge in antisemitic incidents here in America. From college campuses, to attacks at pro-Israel rallies, to bomb threats at synagogues, the spread of hate and antisemitism must be immediately condemned and stopped.

It is deeply distressing to learn that certain capitol advocates and labor unions have failed to condemn Hamas's reprehensible terrorist actions and continue to refuse to stand with the Jewish community during these trying times. The blatant displays of antisemitism across America, even at our own State Capitol, are deplorable and have no place in our society.

The Jewish community members in the districts we represent have passionately emphasized the urgent need for decisive state action. We are grateful to see that the Jewish Caucus has introduced several pieces of legislation combating antisemitism. Additionally, our constituents have underscored the necessity to define antisemitism in California since, sadly, many antisemitic attacks today are not recognized for what they are: unnecessary and hateful attacks on the Jewish people

Jewish. We firmly agree with our constituents within the Jewish community that California should take a stronger stance by defining antisemitism. We urge you to consider incorporating the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism into your legislative package. **Our caucus stands ready to collaborate with you in implementing this definition to better protect the Jewish community and to send a resounding message that antisemitism is intolerable in California.**

The Senate Republican Caucus remains committed to working alongside the Jewish Caucus to tackle antisemitism head-on. To further our understanding and collaboration, we invite the Jewish Caucus to join us for one of our Caucus Lunches to continue the robust discussion about the ongoing situation.

Thank you once again for your unwavering dedication and leadership during these challenging times. **We look forward to working with you as allies to foster a more inclusive society free from all forms of hate.**

Sincerely,



Brian W. Jones  
Senate Minority Leader  
40<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Kelly Seyarto  
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32<sup>nd</sup> Senate District



Brian Dahle  
1<sup>st</sup> Senate District



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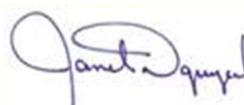
Shannon Grove  
12<sup>th</sup> Senate District



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