



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the people of New York State share the vision of a better world for all humankind, built upon the ideals of love and respect for one another, and we are committed to ensuring the safety, sanctity, and integrity of life in our communities – with utter rejection of viciously expressed forms of hate and bigotry; and

Whereas, we likewise reaffirm our fundamental belief that all free and civilized societies cannot, must not, and will not tolerate any act of violence or hate-motivated crime committed against our fellow human beings, and we are dismayed and disgusted to see the growing number of anti-Semitic incidents and acts of violence – physical, verbal, and psychological – that are being directed against our state and nation's Jewish communities; and

Whereas, today, October 27, 2019, marks one year since the horrific events at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which tragically took the lives of eleven worshippers and injured seven more in the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in American history; and

Whereas, only months later, a second attack on worshippers occurred during the Jewish holiday of Passover at the Chabad of Poway synagogue in California, resulting in one fatality and three injuries; and

Whereas, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is our nation's leading crime investigation, assessment, and analysis authority, and its most recent data reflect a 37% increase in anti-Semitic hate crimes in the United States; the FBI's statistics indicate that, in 2019, Jewish people and institutions, both religious and communal, were the most frequently targeted group, accounting for almost 60% of all religious-based hate crime incidents; and

Whereas, America is built upon its immigrant communities and New York State's history is highlighted by the immigrant experience so well reflected in our diversity today, and we will always embrace people of all races, religions, nationalities, sexual orientations, socioeconomic backgrounds, and political viewpoints who strengthen our social and cultural fabric, and reinforce our foundation of freedom; and

Whereas, this common concern for our fellow man deepens the sense of community that brings us together as one family of humankind, and is found in those whose faith is strengthened by the personal losses they have endured; we join with our state and nation's Jewish communities to solemnly commemorate those lost on this day one year ago, and draw inspiration from their strength and wisdom to speak out against anti-Semitic violence and, in doing so, foster greater respect for life and its sacredness for those generations to come;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 27, 2019 as

A DAY OF ACTION TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM

and on behalf of the people of New York State, reaffirm our commitment to combating all forms of hatred and anti-Semitism, with our lasting pledge to ensure the safety and dignity of our residents and communities.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this eighteenth
day of October in the year two thousand nineteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa