Agenda Item #: 3A-1

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: July 13, 2021	[X] Consent [] Ordinance		ular lic Hearing	
Department: Administration				
<u>I. EX</u>	ECUTIVE BRIEF			
Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: a Resolution adopting the non-legally binding International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism and ensuring that the IHRA working definition of Antisemitism is available as an educational resource for local law enforcement and other government agencies.				
Summary: Florida has seen a 40% increase in Antisemitic incidents in 2020, with the largest increases in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties. Antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, identity, affiliation, or faith, continues to be a problem in American society. Jews remain a targeted minority in the United States and are the most likely of all religious groups to be victimized by incidents of hate. Palm Beach County seeks to adopt the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism and ensure it is available as a resource for local law enforcement and other government agencies responsible for addressing Antisemitism and other forms of discrimination. Countywide (AH)				
Background and Justification: The IHRA's Working Definition on Antisemitism reads "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities." This definition, including eleven contemporary examples, illustrates how antisemitism is used in society and how it manifests itself with regard to the State of Israel. The definition and the eleven contemporary examples can be found at https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism along with additional information on countries and international organizations that have adopted the working definition.				
Attachment: 1.IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism Resolution				
Recommended by:	I/A nt Director		Date	
Approved By:	L Bolby	L	2/8/21	

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

A. Five Year S	Summary of Fiscal Impact:			
Fiscal Years				
Capital				
Expenditures				
Operating Costs External				
Revenues				
Program				
Income(County)				
In-Kind				
Match(County				
NET FISCAL				
IMPACT				
#ADDITIONAL				
FTE POSITIONS				
(CUMULATIVE	·			
Budget Account N Fund Agenc B. Recommended		bject of Fiscal Impact	:	
C. Departmental	III. REVIEW (
A. OFMB Fis	cal and/or Contract Dev. and	I Control Comme λ	nts:	
OFI B. Legal Suffi	MB A 7421 MB A 7421 (2) 7/6/21 iciency	Contract Dev.	& Control & Control	olay 7/P/
<u> </u>	Adel Williams County Attorney			
C. Other Dep	artment Review			

Department Director

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE NON-LEGALLY BINDING INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE (IHRA) WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM; ENSURE THAT THE IHRA WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM IS AVAILABLE AS AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, identity, affiliation, or faith, remains a persistent, pervasive, and disturbing problem in American society; and

WHEREAS, Jews continue to be a targeted minority in the United States and are consistently the most likely of all religious groups to be victimized by incidents of hate, and such incidents are increasing at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS, the deadliest attack against the American Jewish community took place on October 27, 2018 at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, killing eleven worshippers and injuring several more; and

WHEREAS, Florida has seen a 40% increase in antisemitic incidents in 2020, with the largest increases in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties; and

WHEREAS, state officials and institutions have a responsibility to protect citizens from acts of hate and bigotry, including antisemitism, and must be given the tools to do so; and

WHEREAS, valid monitoring, informed analysis and investigation, and effective policy-making all benefit from accurate and uniform definitions; and

WHEREAS, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), by consensus vote of its member states, adopted a Working Definition of Antisemitism in May 2016, which has become the internationally recognized, authoritative definition for use by governments and international organizations; and

WHEREAS, the adopted IHRA 38-word statement on antisemitism reads as follows:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities;" and

WHEREAS, eleven contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere were drafted to help provide guidance for the interpretation of the working definition and include examples of the ways in which antisemitism manifests itself with regard to the State of Israel; and

WHEREAS, the IHRA Working Definition has proven to be an essential tool used to determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, the IHRA Working Definition is utilized by various government and law enforcement agencies in monitoring, training, and education, including the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

- 1. Palm Beach County adopts the non-legally binding IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, including the eleven contemporary examples.
- 2. Palm Beach County will ensure that the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is available as an educational resource for local law enforcement and other government agencies responsible for addressing antisemitism and other forms of discrimination.
- 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commits adoption. The motion was seconded by Cupon being put to a vote, the vote was as follow	Commissioner, and		
DAVE KERNER, Mayor	-		
ROBERT S. WEINROTH, Vice M	layor -		
COMMISSIONER MARIA MARIN	NO -		
COMMISSIONER GREGG K. WE	EISS -		
COMMISSIONER MARIA SACH	S -		
COMMISSIONER MELISSA MCI	KINLAY -		
COMMISSIONER MACK BERNA	ARD -		
The Mayor thereupon declared the resolut day of, 2021.	tion duly passed and adopted on this		
	PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND	JOSEPH ABRUZZO, CLERK OF THE		
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY	CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER		
BY: <u>Jean-Adel Williams</u> Assistant County Attorney	BY: Deputy Clerk		