

Vote No on SB 1287

SB 1287 (Glazer) Public postsecondary education: Equity in Higher Education Act: prohibition on violence, harassment, intimidation, and discrimination.

► SB 1287 IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

SB 1287 attempts to violate students' and faculty's constitutionally protected right to free speech by imposing additional restrictions on student codes of conduct to inhibit their right to assembly, including to hold demonstrations, and by forcing students to waive these rights in order to register. It also unconstitutionally seeks to ban certain expressions of protected speech that it labels "calls for genocide." This flagrantly violates the First Amendment and the California Constitution.

► SB 1287 IS AGAINST FREE SPEECH

The unconstitutional prohibition on alleged "calls for genocide" is meant to imply that common statements for Palestinian rights meet that criterion. Criticizing Israel and advocating for a society with freedom and equality for all are not antisemitism, let alone a threat to us as Jews; calling it that weaponizes false charges of antisemitism in service of a new McCarthyism – and makes Jews and everyone else less safe.

► SB 1287 IS INTENDED TO BULLY STUDENTS INTO SILENCE

SB 1287 seeks to bully students into silence by threatening them if they voice certain opinions. Today those opinions are about stopping the killing of civilians in Gaza. In the past such opinions could have been demanding equal rights for all regardless of race, gender, or sexual orientation or stopping the war on Vietnam. Tomorrow these restrictions could be used against a different group.

► SB 1287 IS PRIMARILY REDUNDANT LAW

Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act and existing California law already require UC, CSU, community colleges and even most private institutions in the state to protect students from harm and empower them – subject to constitutional limits – to bar violence, illegal discrimination and acts of harassment or intimidation that unduly prevent members of the campus community from enjoying the benefits of higher education and campus life.

► SB 1287 IS A WASTE OF TAX DOLLARS

Current law and public colleges and universities already protect students. SB 1287 would force them to waste untold tax dollars to first create new codes of conduct and train staff on them, then to defend the bill's unconstitutional provisions in court, all at a time of major state deficits.

Opposition to SB 1287 includes: American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) California Action, Arab American Civic Council, Associated Student Sacramento State, Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), Jewish Voice for Peace California, Palestinian American League, Rank and File for a Democratic Union, The Palestinian Youth Movement LA-OC-IE Chapter, University of California Student Association, US Campaign for Palestinian Rights