



## BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 5811  
February 16, 2021  
Consent Calendar

### AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	AB 5811: Mayors United Against Antisemitism	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Authorize Mayor Wong to sign the Mayors United Against Antisemitism letter.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	City Council
<b>STAFF:</b>	Benson Wong, Mayor
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	n/a
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Mayors United Against Antisemitism Letter
<b>CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:</b>	n/a

<b>AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE</b>	\$ n/a
<b>AMOUNT BUDGETED</b>	\$ n/a
<b>APPROPRIATION REQUIRED</b>	\$ n/a

### SUMMARY

The American Jewish Committee (AJC) and the U.S. Conference of Mayors are requesting that elected officials in the United States, and around the world, commit to sign the Mayors United Against Antisemitism Letter (see Exhibit 1) and work within and across communities to advance the values of respectful coexistence.

### BACKGROUND

In October 2018, eleven Jews were killed in an attack against the Jewish community at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. According to the FBI 2019 Hate Crimes Statistics, American Jews, who make up less than 2% of the American population, were the victims of 60.2% of anti-religious hate crimes. Locally, in March 2019, two swastikas were found in a parking lot on the north end of Mercer Island next to several local businesses. In September 2020, antisemitic posts on social media and a school-wide communications platform were made by a Mercer Island High School student.

### RECOMMENDATION

Authorize Mayor Wong to sign the Mayors United Against Antisemitism letter.