

SB 297 Proponent Testimony  
December 4, 2024

Honorable Members of the Ohio State Judiciary Committee,

As a Jewish Citizen of the State of Ohio, I have not only heard about and seen anti semitism but I have also been a direct victim of it. My own synagogue that I pray at frequently, put signs up for the innocent hostages in Gaza. Only weeks later, those same signs got torn down by hateful people. Very similarly and more personally, I have a sign in my front yard simply reading "We stand with Israel." Months later, that sign was no longer standing. Laying in the grass of my front lawn, slightly bent and broken. The only response we can have? Put up a new sign. When anti-semites try to cut us down, the only thing we can do is get back up stronger, brush the hate off and keep going. As strong as we can be, these hateful moments still have an impact on us and cut deeper than we let ourselves realize.

You can help us by passing this legislation, help us to not keep living in fear and to help protect the Jews of Ohio.

Thank you for your consideration and for taking meaningful action to address this pressing issue.

Sincerely,

Alia Newman  
Columbus Torah Academy