



# Missouri House of Representatives

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## HB 2061 Passage Makes Missouri the 39<sup>th</sup> State to Adopt IHRA Definition of Antisemitism

**JEFFERSON CITY, MO** – Today, Missouri joined 38 other states in adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism as a key tool to combat hate and discrimination in public education.

House Bill 2061, sponsored by State Rep. George Hruza, was Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed by the Missouri House with a bipartisan vote of **100-17**.

The legislation requires public schools, school districts, and public institutions of higher education to integrate the IHRA definition of antisemitism, including its contemporary examples, into their codes of conduct. Antisemitic harassment or discrimination must now be treated with the same seriousness as discrimination motivated by race.

**HB 2061** also prohibits discrimination based on race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or marital status and ensures equal access to classes, guidance, counseling, and financial assistance.

Rep. George Hruza, a second-generation Holocaust survivor, sponsored the bill to address the alarming rise in antisemitism.

“I applaud the courage of the numerous students who gave heartrending testimony of their antisemitic experiences in their schools and universities,” said Hruza, R-St. Louis. “This legislation will begin to address the 300+% rise in antisemitism in Missouri since the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, terrorist attack on Israelis, providing substantive protection for our Jewish students.

With a bipartisan vote in the House and unanimous support in the Senate, our Jewish community can be assured that the Missouri General Assembly has their back.”

As the son of a Holocaust survivor whose family endured the horrors of Nazi concentration camps, Rep. Hruza has long championed efforts to confront antisemitism and educate future generations. **HB 2061** builds on that commitment by translating student testimony into concrete policy that safeguards Jewish students while upholding free speech.

The bill now awaits the governor’s signature.

*Representative George Hruza, a Republican, proudly represents part of St. Louis County (District 89) in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to his first two-year term in November 2024.*