

## A PROCLAMATION REAFFIRMING THE PROMISE OF NEVER AGAIN

WHEREAS, on International Holocaust Remembrance Day we recall the 6 million lives lost during the most tragic genocide in modern history; and

WHEREAS, we must never forget the horrific events of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, antisemitism is an evil that threatens, not only those who subscribe to the Jewish faith, but people, no matter creed or background; and

WHEREAS, to raise awareness of antisemitism's danger, and vanquish this hatred, it will take a bold act of unity, by people in Wyoming and all across the United States; and

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 contemporary society; and

WHEREAS, Jewish people continue to be a targeted minority. Data shows, for instance, that Jews are consistently the most likely of all religious groups to be victimized by incidents of hate, and that such incidents are increasing at an alarming rate; and

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

WHEREAS, while there can be no exhaustive definition of antisemitism, as it can take many forms, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism, including its associated examples, has been an essential definitional tool used to determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 11, 2019, President Donald Trump signed an executive order adopting the IHRA definition of antisemitism for the purposes of government agencies tasked with enforcing Title VI; and

WHEREAS, use of this definition of antisemitism, although it is not to be taken as an exhaustive definition, will increase awareness and understanding of the parameters of contemporary anti-Jewish discrimination in certain circumscribed areas;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK GORDON,** Governor of Wyoming, hereby proclaim that we the people of the State of Wyoming recommit ourselves to the promise that Never Again can such a tragedy occur by remembering the victims of the Holocaust and, to the extent we do not diminish or infringe on our Constitutional and other protected rights, by using the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism as a tool for identifying and speaking out against antisemitism.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the Governor of Wyoming to be affixed this 27 day of January, 2022.

COVERNOR OF WYOMAN A \* \* \*

The Honorable Mark Gordon

33<sup>rd</sup> Governor of the Great State of Wyoming