April 8, 2019

Chairman Bobby Scott
House Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Virginia Foxx
House Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Foxx:

We, the more than 300 undersigned organizations and institutions, representing millions of Americans from every state in the Union, support the Never Again Education Act (H.R. 943). This important bipartisan legislation uses public funding and private donations in a classic public-private partnership to provide teachers with the resources and training they need to teach children the important lessons of the Holocaust and the consequences of bigotry and hate. As organizations that support Holocaust education as a vital part of our children’s learning experience, we are proud to support this bill that ensures more middle schools and high schools will have the opportunity to educate their students about the Holocaust.

We face a stark contrast today: As the number of living Holocaust survivors and eyewitnesses dwindles, Holocaust denial and ignorance are becoming much more prevalent. Now, it is more important than ever that survivor stories be told to audiences around the globe. Unfortunately, far too many students in the United States grow up without basic knowledge of the events of the Holocaust.

A survey released in April 2018 by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany shows that Americans are forgetting about the Holocaust, or are completely unaware it occurred. For instance, 49 percent of millennials cannot name a single concentration camp. Thirty-one percent of Americans believe that two million or fewer Jews were killed in the Holocaust, even though six million Jews and millions of others perished. Fifty-two percent of Americans are unaware that Hitler came to power through a democratic election. We must do better and we need your continuing leadership to do so.

Teachers face many barriers to teaching the Holocaust, including: a lack of awareness of where to find resources; a lack of funding to take advantage of these resources; and a lack of knowledge for how to incorporate the subject into their curricula. The new program embedded in the Never Again Education Act will help teachers overcome these barriers. By encouraging curriculum experts at the Department of Education to work with private Holocaust education centers and other experts, this bill provides an innovative forum for competitive grants, regional workshops, valuable training programs, curriculum and other resources. Instead of being limited to helping the schools in one area, this program will help reach a broader audience and provide teachers with the tools to educate students in communities across the country.

The Never Again Education Act will send a strong message to the global stage that the United States recognizes the importance of Holocaust education at the highest level. Respectfully, we request an expedited hearing and markup of H.R. 943 and its swift passage on the House floor. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions about the Never Again Education
Act, please contact Stephan Kline, The Jewish Federations of North America’s Associate Vice President for Public Policy, at Stephan.Kline@JewishFederations.org or Karen Paikin Barall, Director for Government Relations at Hadassah: The Women’s Zionist Organization of America, Inc., at kbarall@hadassah.org.

Sincerely,

National Organizations:

Agudath Israel of America
American Conference of Cantors
American Jewish University
American Zionist Movement
Anti-Defamation League
Association of Holocaust Organizations, Board of Directors
Association of Jewish Aging Services
BBYO International Teen Executive Board
Bet Tzedek, Justice for All
B’nai B’rith International
The Cantors Assembly
The Center for Jewish History
Central Conference of American Rabbis
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany
Executive Board of the Association for Jewish Studies
Generations of the Shoah International (GSI)
Grand Board of the Aleph Zadik Aleph, BBYO
Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America
The Hannah Ida Urman Foundation
HIAS
International Board of the B’nai B’rith Girls, BBYO
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
JCC Association of North America
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
The Jewish Federations of North America
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Jewish Women International
Jewish World Watch
Keshet
The Memory Project Productions, Inc.
Men of Reform Judaism
National Coalition Supporting Eurasian Jewry
National Council for the Social Studies
National Council of Jewish Women
National Museum of American Jewish Military History
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
Project Witness
The Rabbinical Assembly
Rabbinical Council of America
Reconstructing Judaism
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association
Remember the Women Institute
Republican Jewish Coalition
Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity
Together We Remember
Union for Reform Judaism
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
Uri L’Tzedek: Orthodox Social Justice
Women of Reform Judaism
The Workmen’s Circle
Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities
Zionist Organization of America

State and Local Organizations:

ADL/Community Relations Committee of Omaha (NE)
ADL Mountain States Region (CO, NM, WY)
Ahavath Achim Synagogue (Atlanta, GA)
Atlanta Rabbinical Association (GA)
Baltimore Jewish Council (MD)
Beth El Synagogue (Omaha, NE)
Beth Israel Congregation (Jackson, MS)
Birmingham Holocaust Education Center (AL)
Camp Ben Frankel (Carbondale, IL)
The Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota
Center for Holocaust Education and Human Dignity (Chandler, AZ)
Center for Human Rights and Peace Studies, City University of New York
Chabad Lubavitch of Montana
Children’s Harbor (Pembroke Pines, FL)
CJE SeniorLife (Chicago, IL)
Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College (NH)
Columbia Holocaust Education Commission (SC)
Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland (OH)
Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest New Jersey
Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh (PA)
Congregation Ahavath Beth Israel (Boise, ID)
Congregation Beth Sholom (Anchorage, AK)
David Posnack JCC (Davie, FL)
East Valley JCC (Chandler, AZ)
Emek Shalom Holocaust Memorial Cemetery (Richmond, VA)
The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta (GA)
Esther Raab Holocaust Museum & Goodwin Education Center (Cherry Hill, NJ)
Family Central Inc. (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)
Farber Hebrew Day School (Southfield, MI)
Federated Jewish Charities of Huntington (WV)
Gordon Jewish Community Center (Nashville, TN)
Greensboro Jewish Federation (NC)
Guardians of the Sick/Bikur Cholim Chesed Organization (Brooklyn, NY)
Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services, Inc. (Clearwater, FL)
Hadassah Boston (MA)
Hadassah Brooklyn (NY)
Hadassah Central Pacific Coast (CA, NV)
Hadassah Central States (KY, MI, NY, OH, PA, WV)
Hadassah Chicago-Northshore (IL)
Hadassah Connecticut (CT)
Hadassah Desert-Mountain (AZ, CO, MT, UT, WY)
Hadassah Florida Atlantic (FL)
Hadassah Florida Broward (FL)
Hadassah Florida Central (FL)
Hadassah Great Plains (IL, IN, KS, MO, WI)
Hadassah Greater Baltimore (MD)
Hadassah Greater Detroit (MI)
Hadassah Greater Miami (FL, PR)
Hadassah Greater Philadelphia (DE, PA)
Hadassah Greater Pittsburgh (PA)
Hadassah Greater Southwest (LA, OK, TX)
Hadassah Greater Washington (DC, MD, VA)
Hadassah K’helah Shel Nashim (Southern, CA)
Hadassah Lexington Chapter (KY)
Hadassah Lower New York State (NY)
Hadassah Nassau (NY)
Hadassah New York (NY)
Hadassah Northern New England (MA, ME, NH, NY, VT)
Hadassah Northern New Jersey (NJ)
Hadassah Pacific Northwest (AK, OR, WA)
Hadassah Southeastern (FL, GA, NC, SC)
Hadassah Southern (AL, AR, FL, LA, MS, TN)
Hadassah Southern California (CA, HI)
Hadassah Southern New England (MA, RI)
Hadassah Southern New Jersey (NJ)
Hadassah Southern Seaboard (NC, VA)
Hadassah Suffolk (NY)
Hadassah Upper Midwest (IA, MN, ND, NE, SD)
Hadassah Westchester (CT, NY)
Helen & Joe Farkas Center for Study of the Holocaust in Catholic Schools (San Francisco, CA)
Holocaust Center for Humanity (Seattle, WA)
Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh (PA)
Holocaust Commission of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater (VA)
Holocaust Community Services, a program of the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago administered by CJE SeniorLife (IL)
Holocaust Learning and Education Fund (Weston, FL)
Holocaust Memorial Center (Farmington Hills, MI)
Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach (FL)
Holocaust Museum and Learning Center: In Memory of Gloria M. Goldstein (St. Louis, MO)
Holocaust Museum Houston (TX)
The Holocaust Museum of Montana
Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center
Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council (IN)
Initiative in Holocaust, Genocide and Memory Studies, University of Illinois
Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies of Indiana
JCRC Atlanta (GA)
JEVS Human Services (Philadelphia, PA)
Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island
JewishColumbus (OH)
Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine
Jewish Community Center of Scranton (PA)
Jewish Community Federation of the Mohawk Valley (Utica, NY)
Jewish Community Federation of Richmond (VA)
Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin & Sonoma Counties (CA)
Jewish Community Relations Commission of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines (IA)
Jewish Community Relations Committee of Columbus (OH)
Jewish Community Relations Committee of Greater Santa Barbara (CA)
Jewish Community Relations Council/ AJC = Detroit (MI)
Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston (MA)
The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation (FL)
Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington (DC)
The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation (WI)
Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati (OH)
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County (FL)
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte (NC)
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas (TX)
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia (PA)
Jewish Community Relations Council of New York
Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties (CA)
Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey
Jewish Democratic Women’s Salon (Atlanta, GA)
Jewish Educational Alliance (Savannah, GA)
Jewish Family & Career Services (Louisville, KY)
Jewish Family and Children’s Service of Greater Philadelphia (PA)
Jewish Family and Children’s Service of Minneapolis (MN)
Jewish Family and Children’s Services of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties (CA)
Jewish Family and Community Services East Bay (CA)
Jewish Family and Community Services of Pittsburgh (PA)
Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties (NJ)
Jewish Family Service of Colorado
Jewish Family Service of Greater New Orleans (LA)
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (CA)
Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit (MI)
Jewish Family Service of MetroWest New Jersey
Jewish Family Service of Rochester (NY)
Jewish Family Service of San Diego (CA)
Jewish Family Services (Columbus, OH)
Jewish Family Services of Indianapolis (IN)
Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley (CA)
Jewish Federation & Family Services of Orange County (CA)
Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee
Jewish Federation Association of Connecticut
Jewish Federation of Arkansas
Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, Inc. (Lexington, KY)
Jewish Federation of the Berkshires (MA)
Jewish Federation of Brevard (Melbourne, FL)
Jewish Federation of Broward County (FL)
Jewish Federation of Central Alabama
Jewish Federation of Cleveland (OH)
Jewish Federation of Delaware
Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill (NC)
Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta (GA)
Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga (TN)
Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas (TX)
Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg (PA)
Jewish Federation of Greater Houston (TX)
Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (IN)
Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City (KS, MO)
Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles (CA)
Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest (NJ)
Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford (MA)
Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans (LA)
Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City (OK)
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia (PA)
Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix (AZ)
Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh (PA)
Jewish Federation of Greater Portland (OR)
Jewish Federation of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys (CA)
Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara (CA)
Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle (WA)
Jewish Federation of Greater St. Paul (MN)
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo (OH)
Jewish Federation of Greater Washington (DC, MD, VA)
Jewish Federation of Lee & Charlotte Counties (FL)
Jewish Federation of Louisville (KY)
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago (IL)
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit (MI)
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
Jewish Federation of New Mexico
Jewish Federation of Northeastern NY
Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey
Jewish Federation of Peoria (IL)
Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks (PA)
Jewish Federation of San Antonio (TX)
Jewish Federation of San Diego County (CA)
Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon & Warren Counties (NJ)
Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona
The Jewish Federation of Southern Illinois, Southeast Missouri, and Western Kentucky
Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey
Jewish Nevada
Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California
Jewish Senior Life of Metropolitan Detroit (MI)
JVS Human Services (Southfield, MI)
JVS SoCal
Kids In Distress, Inc. (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)
Lakin Holocaust Library & Resource Center, Albright College (Reading, PA)
Lexington Kentucky Havurah
The Martin-Springer Institute, Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, AZ)
Massachusetts Association of Jewish Federations
Memphis Jewish Federation (TN)
Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation
Midwest Jewish Congress (St. Louis, MO)
Minneapolis Jewish Federation (MN)
Mississippi Council for the Social Studies
Morristown Jewish Center (Morristown, NJ)
Mt. Sinai Congregation (Cheyenne, WY)
Nancy & David Wolf Holocaust & Humanity Center (Cincinnati, OH)
NCJW Arizona Section
NCJW Atlanta Section (GA)
NCJW California State Policy Advocacy Committee
NCJW Dallas Section (TX)
NCJW Greater Miami Section (FL)
NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section (PA)
NCJW Greater Washington Action Team
NCJW Kendell Section (FL)
NCJW Long Beach Section (CA)
NCJW Louisville Section (KY)
NCJW Michigan Section
NCJW Chicago North Shore Section (IL)
NCJW San Francisco Section (CA)
NCJW South Cook Section (IL)
NCJW St. Louis Section (MO)
NCJW Tennessee State Public Affairs Committee
NCJW Valencia Shores Section (FL)
NCJW West Morris Section (NJ)
Nevada Governor's Advisory Council on Education Relating to the Holocaust
Nevada Library Association
New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education
New Jersey State Association of Jewish Federations
Ohio Jewish Communities
Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition
Phoenix Holocaust Association - Survivors, Generations After & Friends (AZ)
The Project for Holocaust Survivors of Guardians of the Sick/Bikur Cholim Chesed Organization (Brooklyn, NY)
Ray Wolpow Institute for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Crimes Against Humanity at Western Washington University
Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center of Greater Toledo Ohio
Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services (Boca Raton, FL)
Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center (Charlotte, NC)
Savannah Jewish Federation (GA)
Schechter School of Long Island (NY)
The Selden K. Smith Foundation for Holocaust Education (SC)
Selfhelp Community Services, Inc. (New York, NY)
Sons and Daughters of Holocaust Survivors of Philadelphia (PA)
South Carolina Council on the Holocaust
Staenberg-Loup Jewish Community Center (Denver, CO)
Stroum Jewish Community Center of Greater Seattle (WA)
Syracuse University School of Education (Syracuse, NY)
The Temple (Atlanta, GA)
Temple Adath Israel (Lexington, KY)
Temple Beth El (Fargo, ND)
Temple Beth El (Knoxville, TN)
Temple Beth Sholom (Las Vegas, NV)
Temple Emanu-El (Honolulu, HI)
Temple Sinai (Las Vegas, NV)
Tucson Jewish Community Center (AZ)
UJA-Federation of New York
United Jewish Communities Alaska Inc.
United Jewish Community of the Virginia Peninsula
United Jewish Federation of Tidewater (VA)
United Jewish Federation of Utah
Vermont Holocaust Memorial
Virginia Holocaust Museum
Washoe County Library System (NV)
West Virginia Commission on Holocaust Education
The William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum (Atlanta, GA)
Wisconsin Jewish Conference
Youngstown Area Jewish Federation (OH)

cc:  The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House
      The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, House Minority Leader
      Representative Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY)
      Representative Elise Stefanik (R-NY)