



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

**HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK IN FLORIDA**

**WHEREAS**, the heinous terrorist attacks carried out by Hamas on October 7, 2023, in which the antisemitic terror organization murdered more than 1,400 Jews in Israel is a harrowing reminder that the hatred of the Jewish people that led to the Holocaust persists to this day; and

**WHEREAS**, we the people of the state of Florida will always remember the horrors of the Holocaust, stand against all forms of tyranny, and dedicate ourselves to protecting individual freedom, democracy, and a just society; and

**WHEREAS**, understanding the history of the Holocaust and antisemitism offers an opportunity to study the consequences of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping and to examine what it means to be a responsible and respectful person; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 1003.42(2)(g)1., Florida Statutes requires Florida's public K–12 schools to faithfully teach the "history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany and the prevention of antisemitism"; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2019 Governor DeSantis enacted HB 741 into law, prohibiting discrimination in Florida's K–20 public education system based on religion and requiring public K–20 educational institutions to treat discrimination by students or employees or institutional policies motivated by antisemitism in an identical manner to discrimination motivated by race; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020 Governor DeSantis enacted HB 1213 into law, revising the requirement to teach Holocaust education to include instruction concerning antisemitism; requiring school districts to report on Holocaust education instruction annually; requiring the Florida Department of Education to prepare and offer Holocaust education standards and curriculum; and designating the second week in November as 'Holocaust Education Week' in this state in recognition of November as the anniversary of Kristallnacht, widely recognized as a precipitating event that led to the Holocaust; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2021 the State Board of Education subsequently approved the nation's most comprehensive and robust Holocaust Education Standards that were created by Florida educators and experts for Florida students in a manner that is clear and concise for students, parents, and teachers to understand, providing students with a deep understanding of antisemitism to help reduce antisemitism in future generations and prevent future atrocities; and

**WHEREAS**, in May 2023 Governor DeSantis enacted HB 269 into law, expanding law enforcement's ability to enforce and penalize hate crimes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor and Legislature championed \$18 million since 2019 for additional security to ensure children at Florida's Jewish Day Schools can learn and thrive in a safe environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor and Legislature championed over \$5 million in funding for The Florida Holocaust Museum, the Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach, the Commissioner of Education's Task Force on Holocaust Education, the Panhandle Holocaust Education and Teacher Training Center, and the Florida-Israel Business Accelerator; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor DeSantis stands against the Boycott, Divest and Sanction movement and in 2021 removed all state investments in Ben and Jerry's for their decision to boycott Israel; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida will continue to honor the memory of those who were murdered by the Nazis, learn from powerful testimonies of those who survived, and celebrate the heroes who helped liberate the innocent victims.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing November 6–10, 2023, as *Holocaust Education Week in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the year two thousand twenty-three.

A blue ink signature of Ron DeSantis, written over a horizontal line.

Governor