



KATIE HOBBS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

June 10, 2025

The Honorable Steve Montenegro
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: House Bill 2867: antisemitism; public schools; prohibition; penalties

Speaker Montenegro,

Today, I vetoed House Bill 2867. Antisemitism is a scourge on our society and a deeply troubling issue in our country. I continue to proudly stand with Arizona's Jewish community against acts of hate, violence, and harassment, and remain committed to fighting antisemitism in all its forms.

Last year, I signed legislation expanding Holocaust education requirements in our public schools. And last week, I joined members of the Phoenix Jewish community, including Holocaust survivors, to break ground on what will be the first permanent Holocaust education center in Phoenix, funded by the FY25 budget I signed into law. It was a powerful reminder that the most effective way to combat antisemitism is through education, empathy, and community.

Unfortunately, this bill is not about antisemitism; it's about attacking our teachers. It puts an unacceptable level of personal liability in place for our public school, community college, and university educators and staff, opening them up to threats of personally costly lawsuits. Additionally, it sets a dangerous precedent that unfairly targets public school teachers while shielding private school staff. It is disappointing to yet again see this legislature single out and attack our public education system.

Like the National Council of Jewish Women Arizona, the Tucson Jewish Museum & Holocaust Center, the Rabbi Joseph H. Gumbiner Community Action Project, and many other organizations, I believe this bill would undermine public education at all levels.

Students and parents already have avenues through the State Board of Education to report allegations of unprofessional conduct, including antisemitism and all other forms of hate they may encounter in the classroom. I am confident that by using those tools, we can fulfill our moral and legal responsibility to eradicate hate and discrimination in our public school system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that curves slightly upwards at the end.

Katie Hobbs
Governor
State of Arizona

cc:

The Honorable Warren Petersen
The Honorable Michael Way
The Honorable Adrian Fontes