

# Florida House of Representatives

*Representative Mike Caruso*

District 87

**District Office:**

120 South Olive Avenue  
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October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Florida Atlantic University  
Administration Bldg., Room 339  
777 Glades Road  
Boca Raton, FL 33431

President Stacy Volnik,

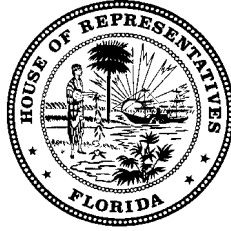
I wish to express my gratitude for your recent restatement of support for Israel. With this in mind, recent events have come to my attention that demand immediate attention and action.

The Palestinian antisemitic protests, which have taken place in various parts of the world, have unfortunately made their presence known on our own shores, and on the campus of FAU. These protests, characterized by hate against the Jewish community, are not only deeply troubling but also fundamentally against the principles of tolerance and respect that we hold dear.

HB 741 in was enacted in 2019 with the aim of combatting such prejudice. This bill defines antisemitism and explicitly prohibits discrimination within Florida's K-20 public education system based on religion. It also requires public educational institutions to consider antisemitism in instances of discrimination. In light of recent events at FAU, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that we do not remain silent in the face of violence and hate. Acts of antisemitism, or any form of discrimination, are unequivocally unacceptable, and they should be condemned in the strongest possible terms.

I request your urgent attention to the situation at FAU and implore you to take the necessary steps outlined in HB 741. This includes tolerating acts of anti-Semitism the same way you would treat acts of racism. Accordingly, provided FAU would terminate sanctioned groups that espoused racial hate and expelled students that were involved, then I ask you to consider the same for these groups and students who were involved in promoting antisemitic rhetoric. It is essential that we send a clear message that such behavior will not be tolerated within the educational institutions of our state.

I trust in your leadership and commitment to the values that our great state upholds. Thank you and I look forward to your prompt action on this critical issue.



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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Caruso".

Mike Caruso,  
State Representative, House District 87