

Anti-Semitism

Janice McGeachin < Janice.McGeachin@lgo.idaho.gov>

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To: Brad Little <Brad.Little@gov.idaho.gov>

Cc: Zach Hauge <Zach.Hauge@gov.idaho.gov>, Dr Anthony Harper InterMountain Christian News <goodnews127@gmail.com>

State of Idaho



Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Janice McGeachin

October 28, 2021

The Honorable Brad Little

Governor

Statehouse

Boise, Idaho 83720

Dear Governor Little,

I oppose all forms of anti-Semitism, including business deals with Iran, BDS, and the funding of the anti-Semitic UN agency UNRWA and others.

I am opposed to the desecration of Jewish cemeteries in Vilnius, Lithuania and elsewhere, by building over the graves of the Jewish people.

Christians are called to support the people of Israel, and the rise in anti-Semitism in our country is quite alarming. The attack on the Nation of Israel by the Biden Administration is unacceptable.

I am writing to request an update from your Office on the following:

- 1. In December 2020, the Anne Frank Memorial was vandalized with swastika stickers. Boise Mayor McLean made the following statement: "The vandalism will be investigated, and the people responsible will be held accountable." Boise police said that investigators would be reviewing surveillance video from the surrounding area and that the investigation is ongoing. What ever became of this investigation? Did the Boise police discover who was responsible for the vandalism? If so, were the perpetrators held accountable? As the CEO of the state of Idaho, did you follow up on this investigation? The people of Idaho deserve to know what happened in this incident.
- 2. What is the status of the implementation of S1086 from the 2021 Legislative Session? This bill passed the Senate 35-0 and the House of Representatives 56-12-2 and was signed into law with your signature on April 4, 2021. Idaho code 67-2346 prohibits the state of Idaho from contracting with certain parties for goods or services if party is participating in a commercial boycott of 'Israel or in territories controlled by Israel'. The law requires the state to prepare and maintain a list of all companies that boycott Israel. The law states that any contract continuing to violate the provisions of this section shall be void as against public policy. Any contract executed prior to July 1, 2021, that violates the provisions of this section will not be renewed. Specifically, how has the Department of Administration complied with this statute?
- 3. On August 6, 2021, I received a letter from the Israel-American Coalition for Action pertaining to certain forms of discriminatory commercial activity. The letter included a statement by Ben & Jerry's, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Unilever. The statement declared that the company will end sales of its ice cream in what *they* described as the Occupied Palestinian Territory. This letter asks for an examination of any state contracts with Unilever. Have you examined state contracts with this company? Have you replied to this entity?
- 4. Dr. Anthony Harper, who is a White House correspondent from Idaho, has indicated that he is looking for a statement of condemnation against any form of anti-Semitism from you. Dr. Harper has indicated that he has called your Office at least four times asking to speak with you. It is my understanding that his calls to your Office have not been returned. Do you intend to respond to Dr. Harper's request or return his calls? Do you intend to issue a statement against anti-Semitism?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Janice McGeachin

Lieutenant Governor

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