



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 07 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly and Senate:

I am signing Assembly Bill 715 and Senate Bill 48.

Together, these bills establish the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) within the Government Operations Agency to enhance the available mechanisms to remediate instances of discrimination on school campuses. Within the OCR, these bills create distinct "discrimination prevention coordinators," including the Antisemitism Prevention Coordinator, in an effort to ensure students are free from all forms of discrimination.

Antisemitism is a historic scourge and needs to be addressed aggressively, which is why my Administration established the Golden State Plan to Counter Antisemitism in April 2024. Notably, in partnership with the Jewish Caucus and the Legislature, our combined efforts have led the Anti-Defamation League to recognize California as "a national leader in combating antisemitism." Relatedly, I have taken steps to ensure that California protects students from all forms of discrimination, including championing legislation to prohibit book bans so that students can learn about and debate different perspectives in our classrooms.

As AB 715 moved through the legislative process, representatives from the entire education ecosystem – including teachers, administrators, school boards, school staff, students, and civil rights organizations – expressed deep commitment to the goals of the bill, along with urgent concerns about unintended consequences. I appreciate the firm commitments made by the authors of AB 715 to work quickly on a follow-up measure next year to continue addressing these issues. Public schools play a foundational role in our democracy, and we

must continue to make our schools safe learning environments for all students while fostering critical thinking skills in the context of challenging conversations.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom