



April 28th, 2026
Written Testimony for Public Hearing
House Finance Committee
Re: Testimony in support of House Bill 8269

Chairman Abney and committee members,

The Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island strongly supports H 8269 which appropriates \$30,000 annually to the Rhode Island Holocaust and Genocide Education Commission.

The Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for the approximately 20,000 Jews in our state, as well as the broader Rhode Island community. Together, we bring Jewish tradition and values to life through meaningful action. Our work is grounded in core Jewish values: *Tikkun Olam*—the responsibility to repair the world; *m'dor l'dor*—the obligation to carry knowledge and memory from generation to generation; and *Hineni*—the commitment to stand with others so that no one stands alone. These principles guide everything we do, including our support for this legislation.

Holocaust and genocide education is not only essential—it is already required by law in Rhode Island. As a state, we have a responsibility to ensure this education is meaningfully supported. That means allocating the resources necessary to equip educators, reach students effectively, and uphold the integrity of this critical instruction.

Sincerely,

Emily Gaudreau

Director, Community Advocacy and Engagement