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April 12, 2021

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairperson  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairperson  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairperson Leahy, Ranking Member Shelby, Chairperson DeLauro, and Ranking Member Granger:

Since 1913, the mission of ADL has been to “stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.” For decades, ADL has fought against bigotry and antisemitism by monitoring and exposing extremist groups and movements that spread hate and commit acts of violence.

We write to request your support in appropriating sufficient funds to help combat domestic extremism, fight antisemitism and other forms of bigotry and hatred, and build a more just and inclusive society.

On January 6, we watched as an insurrection fueled by violent conspiracy theories and white supremacy gripped the nation and attacked our democracy. Unfortunately, this act of domestic terrorism was not a surprise; it is a threat ADL has been warning about for many years - one we had warned law enforcement about once this specific threat became clear, even before the tragic events unfolded.

In its aftermath, ADL created the PROTECT Plan - a comprehensive, bipartisan approach to mitigate the threat of domestic terrorism while protecting civil rights and liberties. Parts of this strategy can be pursued via appropriations: to prioritize the domestic terrorism threat, resource according to the threat, provide law enforcement and the military with the tools needed to address extremist movements, ensure that social media companies are more accountable for dangerous content, and tackle the transnational dimensions of this threat head on. Together, these steps would have a significant impact on preventing and countering domestic terrorism – more so than

any one law - and can do so while protecting vulnerable communities against the risk of government overreach.

Below, please find ADL's appropriations request to prioritize the following FY 2022 programs:

- **HOMELAND SECURITY**
  1. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM
  2. TARGETED VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM PREVENTION
  3. NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM
- **COMMERCE, JUSTICE AND SCIENCE**
  1. COUNTERING DOMESTIC TERRORISM
  2. EXTREMISM IN LAW ENFORCEMENT
  3. CLEARINGHOUSE FOR ONLINE EXTREMISM
  4. DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM RESEARCH
  5. IMPROVING HATE CRIMES REPORTING AND PREVENTION
  6. MATTHEW SHEPARD ACT STATE AND LOCAL POLICE TRAINING
  7. COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE
  8. VOTING SECTION'S ANTI-DISCRIMINATION WORK
- **DEFENSE**
  1. EXTREMISTS IN THE MILITARY
- **STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS**
  1. COUNTERING GLOBAL WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM
  2. OFFICES OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM AND SPECIAL ENVOY FOR HOLOCAUST ISSUES
- **INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES**
  1. NEVER AGAIN EDUCATION ACT

## **HOMELAND SECURITY**

### **1. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM**

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends measures to ensure Congress resources to the threats. Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas has made fighting domestic violent extremism a "National Priority Area." For FY 2021, and for the first time, states and local governments applying for the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant programs can avail themselves of part of the \$77 million set aside to address domestic violent extremism, 7.5 percent of the total awards. This approach is helping to combat what the Secretary has called the most significant national terrorism threat, "small groups of individuals who commit acts of violence motivated by domestic extremist ideological beliefs."

**ADL asks that the Homeland Security Grant program be sufficiently funded in FY 2022, and that report language reflect the expectation that no less than \$77 million be set aside for combating domestic violent extremism.**

## **2. TARGETED VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM PREVENTION**

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends that Congress increase prevention measures to address violent extremist radicalization and recruitment. The Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) grant program funds community initiatives oriented around resilience that can prevent extremist conspiracies from taking hold in our communities and off-ramp individuals before they choose violence. It is the only federal grant program dedicated to enhancing prevention capabilities in local communities. But this community resilience approach to preventing terrorism have been chronically under-funded.

**ADL requests that \$150 million be appropriated for the Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention grant program in FY2022 and that Congress include the Administration's request for program evaluation funds to ensure they are adequately evaluated.**

At the same time, the TVTP grant program requires reform. Funding should be allocated toward increasing transparency, improving program evaluation, and developing an approach that focuses on increasing the amounts of funding to civil society and other nongovernmental organizations. A law enforcement-only approach centered on investigations and prosecutions is insufficient to address the challenge of radicalization leading to violence, so buttressing funding to nongovernmental partners would promote the more effective multidisciplinary approach that the Office of Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention has adopted. Enhanced transparency promoting evidence-based solutions learned from the current grant program will further lower the barriers to entry for civil and non-governmental groups in conjunction with steering them to promising practices ready for replication.

**ADL requests report language to reflect the need for transparency, oversight, community engagement, and measures of effectiveness for the TVTP program. In accomplishing this and scaling the program, ADL recommends Congress and the Department of Homeland Security study whether some grants should be administered by other departments, such as the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Education, and potentially whether grants should be consolidated into a small number of larger grantees to provide sub-grants to local projects while distancing the program from security officials. ADL requests that report language reflect the need for further transparency, more robust program evaluation, and the need to engage up-front with communities.**

## **3. NON-PROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM**

For the past decade, funding assistance from federal, state, and local governments has provided crucial support for security hardening and enhancements for our nation's non-profit institutions, including religious institutions. This responds to the continuing targeting by violent extremists of synagogues, mosques, churches, temples and other houses of worship or religious gathering places.

The Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP) provides non-profits with the capacity to increase their defense against these threats, including physical security and cybersecurity capacity and coordination. Congress appropriated \$180 million for the Non-Profit Security Grant Program for FY 2021. Unfortunately, despite a generous increase in the NSGP program in recent years, the need continues to be greater than the resources provided. At a time of increased vulnerability to threats of hate-motivated violence by domestic extremists, Congress should significantly increase funding for non-profit religious institutions and other non-profit organizations that government and law enforcement authorities objectively determine are at high risk of attack. In assessing the risk, officials should consider objective factors such as prior attacks against similarly situated institutions or organizations, and the vulnerability and financial needs of the specific institution.

**ADL requests increased funding of the Non-Profit Security Grant Program at \$360 million.**

## **COMMERCE-JUSTICE-SCIENCE**

### **1. COUNTERING DOMESTIC TERRORISM**

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends that Congress make resource investments that adapt to the threat from domestic extremists, which is severe – and growing. The majority of violence committed against Americans by extremists is now homegrown, and we must reorient our counterterrorism capabilities. To address this threat, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that an additional 175 FBI field agents, 45 additional employees, 25 U.S. Attorney office personnel, 18 additional DHS analysts are needed, as well as a budget to support reporting and coordination. These funds for personnel, training, and reporting will help catalyze a range of activities to better understand the domestic terrorist threat, to ensure resources are used proportionate to the threat posed, and to work across agencies to better prepare to keep communities safe.

The Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act (H.R. 350/S. 963) would in part ensure resources are used based on the threat of a terrorist movement. While we work to support the passage of the DPTA itself, personnel for the offices and training opportunities for state and local partners can and should be funded separate and apart from the bill.

**ADL supports \$11 million in FY 2022 and an estimated \$184 million over five years to increase resources and staffing to help counter domestic terrorism. ADL also requests that report language reflect the need for transparency and threat-proportionate appropriations.**

### **2. EXTREMISM IN LAW ENFORCEMENT**

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL urges the Committee to recognize and address the fact that some public safety officers are extremists, as evidenced by the participation of active law enforcement personnel in the attempted insurrection of January 6. Additionally, FBI assessments dating back more than 15 years, among other sources, have noted that such extremists seek out positions in law enforcement and work to recruit law enforcement personnel into their ranks in

order to gain access to sensitive security-related information as well as tactical knowledge and training. The consequences of this infiltration are potentially severe, ranging from deterioration of police-community relations to destruction, conflict, and death resulting from extremist officers' activities (which may, and did, rise to the level of danger inherent in the January 6 attempted insurrection).

**ADL requests that the Committee encourage the Justice Department to provide the highest priority to Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program applicants and law enforcement agencies that request support for screening applicants and personnel for persistent racism and/or violent extremist ideologies or affiliations, and further encourage the Department to prioritize COPS grants to program applicants and law enforcement agencies that require their employees to complete training on extremism.**

**ADL also asks that the Committee support improved security clearance policies, procedures, and trainings to ensure that individuals whose possible adherence to violent extremist ideologies raises questions about their judgment or trustworthiness do not have security clearances, including directing the Department to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress in developing these improved policies, procedures, and trainings.**

**ADL also asks that the Committee support improved security clearance policies, procedures, and trainings to ensure that individuals whose possible adherence to violent extremist ideologies raises questions about their judgement or trustworthiness do not have security clearances, including directing the Department to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress in developing these improved policies, procedures, and trainings.**

### 3. CLEARINGHOUSE FOR ONLINE EXTREMISM

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends funding a study for an independent clearinghouse for online extremism content. With domestic terrorism continuing to pose a growing threat, we must seek creative ways to address the critical role that social media plays in fueling the rise of extremism. However, we must not empower law enforcement to engage so thoroughly in social media investigations that civil liberties would be at risk. ADL proposes the creation of an independent non-profit, mirroring the founding of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, to investigate online threats proactively with careful parameters to ensure that the broad nature of these investigations does not provide surveillance powers to law enforcement, but is independent.

**ADL requests \$500,000 to the National Institute of Justice for a six-month study into the feasibility, costs, and operational options for an independent clearinghouse for online extremist content.**

#### 4. DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM RESEARCH

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL recommends increased investment in federal research to study ways to close the gap in our ability to prevent domestic extremism that will otherwise endure as an increasingly dangerous and destabilizing force in American communities. As domestic violent extremism is on the rise – and already at an impactful level – we must expand the government’s knowledge, and that of the general public, on the threat and best practices to counter it. Data should drive policy. The National Institute of Justice preforms essential research on violent extremist radicalizations and best practices in methods to counter it, the Bureau of Justice Statistics is in a position to collect and analyze data to better understand the context around the issues, and the Office of Justice Programs is well suited to coordinate various complementary efforts throughout the offices it oversees.

**ADL requests \$20 million above current levels to the Office of Justice Programs, dedicated specifically to research and data related to domestic violent extremism issues.**

#### 5. IMPROVING HATE CRIMES REPORTING AND PREVENTION

Fighting hate crime is a critical task, especially now that antisemitism, anti-Asian-American violence, and other forms of racism and bigotry are at all-time high levels. The FBI’s most recent Hate Crime Statistics Act (HCSA) report revealed that 2019 was the deadliest year on record with 51 hate crime murders – a 113-percent increase over the previous record of 24 set in 2018. Total hate crime incidents rose to 7,314, marking the fourth increase in the past five years. Race-based hate crimes remained the most common type of hate crime, as has been the case every year since the FBI began reporting hate crime data nearly three decades ago; of these, the largest number of crimes targeted Black victims. After declining in 2018, religion-based hate crimes increased by 7 percent, with 63 percent of the total number of reported religion-based hate crimes directed at Jews and Jewish institutions. Anti-Hispanic hate crimes rose nearly 9 percent, the fourth straight year of escalating numbers. This is a trend not unrelated to the escalation of anti-immigrant rhetoric, bigotry, and dehumanization in the public discourse. In addition, after a 41-percent increase in 2018, hate crimes targeting individuals based on gender identity rose another 18 percent in 2019.

As disturbing as these statistics are, they only tell us about a small fraction of all hate crimes. Many law enforcement agencies do not participate meaningfully in reporting pursuant to the Hate Crime Statistics Act. In 2019, for the second straight year, the number of law enforcement agencies providing data to the FBI declined. In addition, in 2019, 86 percent of participating agencies did not report a single hate crime to the FBI, including at least 71 cities with populations over 100,000. Large gaps in data about hate-motivated attacks, along with factors like mistrust between affected communities and police and disincentives to prosecute infractions as hate crimes, limit the effectiveness of civil society and law enforcement actors who are working to eliminate hate crime. Significant changes and supportive efforts, up to and including reporting mandates, are necessary to involve all of society in the critical task of combating hate.

**ADL supports report language that states the Committee’s concern that incomplete reporting of hate crime data to the FBI hinders critically needed efforts to understand, prevent, and mitigate the harms of hate crime. We ask the Committee to urge the FBI to**



**conduct outreach and provide technical assistance to law enforcement agencies that have not consistently reported hate crimes data, with particular attention to small agencies with the fewest resources for administrative management and data analysis. In addition, the Committee should continue to ask State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to include the cost of participation in the FBI's HCSA program for the purposes of calculating extraordinary expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes under Public Law 111– 84, section 4704(b)(3).**

Furthermore, ADL believes that while a more complete understanding of the national problem posed by hate crime is in the public interest, a complete understanding is hindered by incomplete data from Federal, State, and local jurisdictions. Multiple factors contribute to the provision of inaccurate and incomplete data regarding the incidence of hate crime through the FBI's reporting program. Underreporting of hate crimes by participating agencies leads to an exponential gap between the number of hate crimes victims report experiencing in the National Crime Victimization Survey, and the number of hate crimes recognized and reported by law enforcement. Missing reports impair the ability of public safety officers and civil society to prevent and respond to hate crimes. The lack of trust between some communities that are targeted by hate crimes and law enforcement also hinders reporting. Ensuring that victims and community-based organizations that work with them have the confidence to share their experiences and seek redress requires that government agencies conduct consistent, proactive outreach to convey their commitment to protecting and engaging those most affected by bias-motivated crimes.

The Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act (H.R. 2382) would ensure that the Department of Justice actively supports law enforcement agencies in strengthening their practices and capacity to investigate and report on hate crimes and evaluates the benefits of more comprehensive hate crime data. While we work toward passage of the NO HATE Act itself, Congress can advance its goals by requesting an accounting from the Attorney General of law enforcement agencies' hate crime reporting practices, and by directing State and local law enforcement assistance to programs and efforts that improve hate crime investigation, record-keeping and reporting.

**ADL requests that the Committee fully fund the provision of grants to State and local law enforcement agencies to implement the National Incident-Based Reporting System, create hate crime reporting hotlines, and train officers and develop protocols for identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes.**

**ADL also urges the Committee to direct the Attorney General to publish and provide to this Committee not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act with a report that shall include a qualitative analysis of the relationship between the number of hate crimes reported by State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies through the National Incident-Based Reporting System and the nature and extent of law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs conducted by those agencies to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime. We ask that this report also include a quantitative analysis of the number of State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies that have (1) adopted a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes; (2) developed a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the incidence of hate crime; (3) established a unit specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes; and (4) engaged in community relations**

**functions related to hate crime or conduct hate crime trainings for agency personnel using federal funds provided during Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021.**

## **6. MATTHEW SHEPARD ACT STATE AND LOCAL POLICE TRAINING**

The FBI's most recent release of annual Hate Crime Statistics Act (HCSA) data for 2019 revealed a harrowing trend of increasing hate crimes being reported in the United States, even as fewer law enforcement agencies provided data to the FBI. The increase in reported hate crimes came despite the fact that in 2019, for the second straight year, the number of law enforcement agencies providing data to the FBI declined. When one individual is targeted by a hate crime, it hurts the whole community, and leaves people feeling vulnerable and afraid. The federal government's leadership is indispensable to the critical task of improving effectiveness at tracking, mitigating the harms caused by, and ultimately, preventing destructive bias-motivated aggression.

**ADL requests \$100 million for grants to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to conduct educational outreach and training on hate crimes and to investigate and prosecute hate crimes, as authorized by section 4704 of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (Public Law 111-84).**

## **7. COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE**

The Department of Justice's Community Relations Service (CRS) saves lives and preserves community cohesion and must be taken to scale and increased to meet expanding demand resulting from COVID-19-related hate crimes targeting the Asian-American Pacific Islander community, and other increases in discrimination and hate. CRS's efforts are symbolically important and practically effective. For example, after a gunman killed a worshipper and wounded three others at the Chabad of Poway, CA, on April 27, 2019 – exactly six months after the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh – members of the surrounding community asked CRS to help reestablish community safety and rebuild residents' confidence that they could safely attend religious services. Within days of the shooting, CRS brought the local U.S. Attorney's Office together with leaders of local faith communities to assess tensions, identify concerns, and share best practices for addressing hate crimes and protecting religious institutions. CRS served as a liaison between community stakeholders and the state and federal agencies involved in investigating the shooting and also worked with stakeholders to convene continuing conversations, including a Bias Incidents and Hate Crimes forum held by an interfaith coalition of San Diego-area religious communities and an August 2019 training that brought the U.S. Attorney's Office back together with faith community leaders to build capacity to prevent and respond to hate crimes.

**ADL supports \$40 million for the Community Engagement Relations program to offer services in more communities in need.**



## 8. CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION'S VOTING SECTION

Before, during, and after the 2020 Presidential Election, disinformation about threats to election security and integrity spread widely, and in significant part due to some political figures' repeated public critiques of normal procedures such as mail voting and of extraordinary measures undertaken to avoid COVID-19-related perils, including proactive mailing of mail ballot applications and expansion of early voting hours and periods. Election administrators, federal and international experts at agencies like the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and independent audits of paper records of votes cast have all affirmed that election results were valid, and no significant or widespread fraud or irregularities occurred. Nonetheless, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, as of March 24, 2021, state lawmakers had carried over, pre-filed, or introduced 361 bills that would restrict access to the ballot in 47 states' current legislative sessions. These measures take direct aim at aspects of the voting process that disproportionately affect voters of color and preserving equal access to elections in 2021 and beyond will depend upon the strength and readiness of the most capable and expert voting rights prosecutor in the nation, the Civil Rights Division's Voting Section.

The Voting Section requires expanded capacity to respond to the many states and localities that already have adopted discriminatory voting restrictions or are poised to follow suit. For example, Georgia recently signed into law a bill that expands voter identification requirements, which BIPOC voters are disproportionately likely to be unable to meet and to perceive as a barrier to voting; the bill also makes it a crime to approach voters waiting in line to give them food or water and restricts the use of ballot drop boxes for mail voters. Another example is Iowa, which enacted a bill that shortens the state's early voting period and polling place hours and restricts the use of satellite voting sites, all flexibilities that have proven particularly important to the state's growing population of young Latino voters, according to LULAC Iowa Political Director Joe Henry.

**ADL requests an additional \$5 million for the Civil Rights Division for additional attorney positions in the Voting Section to conduct Voting Rights Act enforcement activities.**

## DEFENSE

### 1. EXTREMISTS IN THE MILITARY

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL is concerned about domestic extremists occupying positions in public service and the severe danger they pose to those around them and to the entire nation. The U.S. military is the largest such institution, with more than two million active duty and reserve personnel currently serving in the various branches. Once enlisted, extremists in military service detract from order, discipline and morale within the ranks by fostering environments in which BIPOC personnel and members of other minority groups do not feel valued or safe. They may become insider threats who use their authorized access to Department facilities to harm the Services or nation. Active duty and retired Servicemembers were among those who entered the Capitol on January 6, and their involvement was one of the reasons that the Secretary called for a stand-down in February 2021 to address extremism in the Services.

Based on our longstanding work in this area, ADL estimates that while the number of extremists in the military is small compared to the total number of men and women serving, even small numbers of unchecked extremists in the ranks can cause harm and problems far disproportionate to their number, including physical injury to service members and/or civilians; theft of military equipment; security breaches; harm to morale, unit cohesion, and personnel retention; and loss of reputation that detracts from mission success.

There is significant evidence that servicemembers today are encountering extremist personnel and that serious negative consequences will continue to result. Alarmingly, in October 2020, the Department of Defense assessed that the Services face threats from such individuals who prioritize recruiting military personnel and encouraging one another to enlist to obtain combat and tactical experience and sensitive national security-related knowledge. In 2017, the *Military Times* conducted a survey of over 1,100 service members that suggested that one in four had seen “examples of white nationalism” among their fellow service members. In 2019, they repeated the survey and found the percentage had risen to more than one in three. These trends are a threat to our national security not lost on propagandists of nations unfriendly to the United States. For example, Russian English-language propaganda outlet RT.com (short for *Russia Today*), which has a history of promoting divisiveness within (and negative impressions of) the United States, has publicized racism and white supremacy in the U.S. military on a number of occasions. The Department of Defense, as a whole and in a way that reaches into each of the Services, must take decisive and intentional action to mitigate the threat of violent and divisive extremism within its ranks. For the Services to be the inclusive and effective organizations we demand, their ranks must be free of individuals who act to advance white supremacist and violent anti-government ideologies.

**ADL asks that the Committee support improved screening for domestic extremists at recruitment and enlistment, including directing the Department to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress on implementation of the recommendations set forth in the report provided in response to section 530 of Public Law 116-92 and dated October 14, 2020, as well as the Secretary of Defense memorandum “Immediate Actions to Counter Extremism in the Department and Establishment of the Countering Extremism Working Group” dated April 9, 2021.**

**ADL also asks that the Committee support improved security clearance policies, procedures, and trainings to ensure that individuals who adhere to extremist ideologies do not have security clearances, including directing the Department to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress in developing these improved policies, procedures, and trainings.**

## **STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS**

### **1. COUNTERING GLOBAL WHITE SUPREMACIST EXTREMISM**

As part of the PROTECT plan, ADL supports the Department of State's nascent efforts to counter "Racially and Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremism (REMVE)" and supports further efforts to shepherd in a new era of capabilities to counter white supremacy globally. White supremacy and other forms of domestic terrorism are clear threats domestically, but many of those threats have overseas counterparts with whom they coordinate or inspire. The Department's Multilateral coordination and best practices can serve as a cost-effective way to catalyze global efforts to mitigate the threat; by providing startup-funding for community resilience non-profits, facilitating best practices for policymakers, and creating best practices and training for prosecutors and terrorism prevention practitioners, a new era of capabilities can be launched.

**ADL requests that the State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism receive additional funding specific to REMVE-related efforts, including dedicated funding for donations to the Global Counterterrorism Forum (\$2 million), Hedayah (\$800,000), the International Institute for Justice and Rule of Law (\$800,000), and the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (\$12 million) to build counter-REMVE capacity.**

Additionally, the Department of State's Global Engagement Center (GEC) creates and supports critical efforts to counter malign propaganda, such as that of ISIS, Al Qaeda, Iran, and Russia. In light of the threat of the rise of global white supremacy, particularly given the movement's reliance on global communications, ADL believes the GEC should also create new efforts to address REMVE and adapt to the malign influence from global white supremacist extremists.

**ADL requests that the State Department's Bureau of Public Affairs receive an additional \$10 million for the GEC to launch REMVE efforts.**

**ADL also asks that the Committee direct the Department to report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on its progress on implementation of the requirement in the FY 2021 NDAA that the Department create a comprehensive strategy on countering white identity terrorism and how the strategy will be implemented.**

### **2. OFFICES OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM AND SPECIAL ENVOY FOR HOLOCAUST ISSUES**

Antisemitism is a serious problem around the globe. For example, ADL's 2019 update on its "Global 100" survey shows that one in four Europeans polled harbor pernicious attitudes toward Jewish people; and a study by Tel Aviv University's Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry found violent anti-Semitic attacks worldwide rose 18 percent in 2019. In light of the growing global threat of antisemitism, last Congress updated the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004, elevating the role of the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism to the rank of Ambassador and with the authority to coordinate efforts across the entire federal government to combat antisemitism abroad.

**ADL asks Congress to increase to \$1.25 million the allocation for the U.S. State Department's Office of the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, in accordance with the important role of this office that was emphasized by Public Law 116-326, the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism Act, that was resoundingly passed by Congress in December 2020.**

**ADL also asks Congress to provide \$1 million for the U.S. State Department's Office of the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, which reflects an increase of \$250,000 above existing levels for staffing and additional programs or exchanges to combat Holocaust distortion and to promote Holocaust education abroad in partnership with civil society, with a focus on particular countries in Europe, Eurasia, the Near East, or beyond, and in coordination with other regional or substantive bureaus as appropriate.**

## **INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES**

### **1. NEVER AGAIN EDUCATION ACT**

According to a 2018 national survey, almost half of millennials believe that fewer than 2 million Jewish people were killed in the Holocaust. Teaching about the Holocaust goes beyond understanding the historical fact that six million Jews were murdered along with millions of other innocent victims of the Nazi regime during World War II. Holocaust education can teach universal lessons, including world history, fascism, extremism, the fragility of democracy, the human capacity for immorality, scapegoating and stereotyping, the role of perpetrators and bystanders, the importance of empathy and diversity and efforts toward justice.

**ADL requests \$2 million to support the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's education programming in accordance with Public Law 116-141, the Never Again Education Act, that was passed overwhelmingly by Congress in May 2020.**

These funding requests are essential to deal with the grave situations our nation faces, including domestic extremism, increased antisemitism and other hate crimes, and other critical issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [msevillia@adl.org](mailto:msevillia@adl.org) or 202-374-1272 with any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration of ADL's requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Sevilla', written over a horizontal line.

Max Sevilla  
ADL Vice President for  
Government Relations, Advocacy  
and Community Engagement