



The State University
of New York

Office of the Chancellor

H. Carl McCall SUNY Building
353 Broadway, Albany, New York 12246

SUNY Global Center, 116 E 55th St,
New York, NY 10022

www.suny.edu

December 11, 2023

The Honorable Claudia Tenney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3222

Dear Representative Tenney,

On behalf of the State University of New York (SUNY), I am writing in response to your letter to several of our campus presidents following the recent House Education and the Workforce Committee hearing on confronting antisemitism.

In your letter, you ask whether calling for the genocide of Jews would violate SUNY's policies.

The answer is: Yes.

What you are describing is dangerous, despicable, and unacceptable. The safety of SUNY's students is and always will be paramount.

Governor Hochul has made clear that she expects no less from campuses across New York State. While attending Shabbat services this past Friday, the Governor noted that "you must protect students from an environment – a hostile environment – and they violate that if they allow that to go on their campuses." Governor Hochul followed this with a [letter](#) to all college and university presidents in New York State on Saturday reminding campus leaders of their responsibilities under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VI extends to students who experience discrimination, including harassment, based on their actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics. The U.S. Department of Education has reminded campuses that this includes antisemitism as well as Islamophobia and other forms of discrimination.

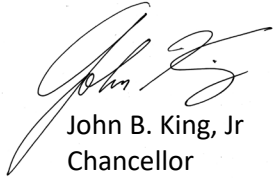
SUNY stands with Governor Hochul in combatting antisemitism and protecting the safety and security of our students. Let me say it simply: antisemitism – including calls for genocide – and other forms of hatred are not and will not be tolerated on SUNY campuses.

This is a moment for moral clarity. We at SUNY have been unambiguous in condemning the horrific Hamas terrorist attack on Israel on October 7th and continue to work diligently to ensure the safety of our students, including deploying the University Police Department to

ensure students are safe at Shabbat services, and that vigils and any rallies proceed safely. You can find those materials [here](#).

Thank you for your letter, and we look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,



John B. King, Jr
Chancellor
State University of New York

cc: Governor Hochul
SUNY Board of Trustees
SUNY Campus Presidents