



The Florida Legislature



Jewish Caucus

Florida State Capitol

Senate
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

House of Representatives
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Representative Richard Stark, Chair
District 104

Representative Emily Slosberg, Incoming Chair
District 91

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Senator Lori Berman
District 31

Senator Lauren Book
District 32

Senator Kevin Rader
District 29

Senator Annette Taddeo
District 40

Representatives

Representative Mike Caruso
District 89

Representative Ben Diamond
District 68

Representative Joe Geller
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Representative Michael Gottlieb
District 98

Representative Adam Hattersley
District 59

Representative Tina Scott
Polsky
District 81

Representative David Silvers
District 87

June 25, 2020

John Thrasher, President
Florida State University
211 Westcott Building
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1470

Dear President Thrasher:

On behalf of undersigned members of the Florida Jewish Legislative Caucus, we write to raise our deepest concerns over the inflammatory comments made by Florida State University Student Senate President Ahmad Daraldik. We believe these continued, public expressions of anti-Semitism raise doubts about his ability to effectively represent the interests and values of every Florida State University student.

There is no place for hatred and prejudice on our college campuses, and anti-Semitism is undoubtedly hate speech. Jewish students, and Zionist students, are entitled to attend school at Florida State University with as much protection, and freedom from a hostile environment, as any other students, none of whom should be forced to confront hatred and hostility. This is especially true when it is coming from official university representatives.

The Student Senate President must retract his inflammatory remarks and actions if he is to continue in his role, and engage in constructive dialogue designed to heal divisions on the campus of Florida State University, not inflame them. Blood libels must be withdrawn. If he cannot play a constructive leadership role in bringing the campus together, and ensure that all students are free to learn in a positive environment free of fear and hostility, then he must step down in favor of a successor who will make these things possible.

Best regards,

/s/
State Representative Rick Stark, Caucus Chair
State Representative Emily Slosberg, Incoming Caucus Chair
State Senator Lori Berman
State Senator Lauren Book
State Senator Kevin Rader
State Senator Annette Taddeo
State Representative Mike Caruso
State Representative Ben Diamond
State Representative Joe Geller
State Representative Michael Gottlieb
State Representative Adam Hattersley
State Representative Tina Polsky
State Representative David Silvers