

By Senator Berman

31-01073C-21

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Senate Resolution

A resolution supporting democratic institutions,
affirming a commitment to inclusivity, and condemning
extremism and violence.

WHEREAS, the Florida Senate is committed to defending
democratic institutions and the integrity of the election system
and to ensuring the security of the people who carry out the
democratic process and the facilities they work in, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Senate is committed to ending the
spread of hatred, bigotry, and harassment based on race, color,
religion, national origin, ethnicity, sex, gender identity and
expression, sexual orientation, disability, and any other
protected characteristic as defined by law, and

WHEREAS, the diversity of the people of our state is
beneficial to all who call Florida home, making us stronger and
more resilient, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Senate wishes to affirm its commitment
to cultivating an inclusive community within this legislative
body and in institutions and organizations throughout our great
state by celebrating diversity, working to ensure equitable
opportunities in all segments of society, preventing the spread
of misinformation and disinformation, rejecting hatred and bias
in all forms, and setting a positive example for our
constituents, and

WHEREAS, the January 6, 2021, domestic terrorism incident
at our nation's Capitol does not reflect the values of the
Florida Senate, and

WHEREAS, the Anti-Defamation League's report "Murder and

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30 Extremism in the United States in 2019” found that domestic
31 extremists killed at least 42 people in the United States in 17
32 separate incidents in 2019, making 2019 the sixth-deadliest year
33 on record for domestic extremist-related murders since 1970, and

34 WHEREAS, misinformation, disinformation, and online
35 conspiracy theories such as QAnon are spreading and inspiring
36 real violence, and

37 WHEREAS, the Federal Bureau of Investigation identified 111
38 hate crime incidents in Florida in 2019, and

39 WHEREAS, the Florida Senate supports the right of all
40 people to peacefully exercise free speech, free assembly, and
41 freedom to worship, NOW, THEREFORE,

42
43 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

44
45 That the Florida Senate denounces the January 6, 2021,
46 domestic terrorism incident at the United States Capitol.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Senate affirms its
48 ongoing commitment to cultivating an inclusive, safe, and just
49 society and culture, including within the operations of the
50 Florida Senate, which values the diversity of the people of our
51 state, works to ensure equitable opportunities for all, and
52 celebrates both our individuality and our commonality.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Senate denounces
54 and rejects views of anti-government extremism, white supremacy,
55 racism, anti-Semitism, misogyny, xenophobia, Islamophobia, anti-
56 LGBTQ+ hate, discrimination in favor of able-bodied people, and
57 all hateful speech and bias-motivated violent actions, wherever
58 they occur.

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59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Senate denounces
60 extremist misinformation, disinformation, and conspiracy
61 theories that cultivate an alienated and mistrustful electorate,
62 undermine democratic institutions and processes, and increase
63 the likelihood of violence.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Senate urges all
65 Floridians to join it in adopting values in their own lives
66 based on inclusiveness, diversity, equal opportunity, truth, and
67 the rejection of hatred and bias in all forms, recognizing the
68 harms caused by hate and extremism, and denouncing hate and
69 extremism in the interest of the public safety and quality of
70 life for all Americans.