

Subject: Public Comment for Senate Committee on Education-Agenda Item on 2/19/26 at 1:30 PM

Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 4:03 PM

Hi-I apologize; I did not know this agenda item had to do with antisemitism and holocaust education in general. Antisemitism is a real issue that must be confronted in its own right, and holocaust education/education about European and American antisemitism in the VT curriculum seems entirely warranted, unless it is used specifically to shut down productive debates about anti zionism and palestinian liberation. Thank you very much.

Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 12:30 PM

My name is Calder Page-Bryant, and I am a Burlington resident and registered Vermont voter. I urge the Senate Committee on Education to vote against bill H.310. Censoring anti-zionist perspectives in public education compromises the fundamental purpose of education to foster critical thinking in young people and expose them to a diversity of political viewpoints. As others have pointed out, it is necessary to divorce the real issue of antisemitism from warranted criticism of Israel as a modern state which is liable to be academically and politically critiqued based on its failures to provide democratic and equal rights for all of its citizens, its violations of international law and wartime conventions, and, like other countries including our own, the ways in which it systematically reproduces discrimination, racism, and neocolonial dynamics. Our students must be able to articulate or at least be familiar with these viewpoints if they are to be responsible global citizens. Thank you.