



5442 South 900 East
Ste.512
Salt Lake City, UT 84117
801-410-0337
www.utpsych.org

February 26, 2019

Dear Gov. Herbert, Speaker Wilson, President Adams, Senator Hemmert, Senator Thatcher and Utah Senators,

After careful review of SB 103, we, the Board of the Utah Psychological Association, would like to express our collective support of this important bill, which enhances sentences of individuals convicted of a hate crime. Our hundreds of members live and work across Utah, providing mental health care in counties such as Cache, Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Utah, Wasatch, Washington, Weber Country, among others.

As part of the larger American Psychological Association mission, we support the efforts of researchers, law enforcement, clinicians, teachers, and policy-makers to reduce hate crimes and alleviate their grave consequences on our society. There is ample evidence to suggest that prevention and intervention policies and programs, such as enacting hate crime laws and/or strengthen laws in others, incorporating race, religion, ethnicity/national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability, are effective in reducing violence.

Our UPA members are tasked with treating the profound psychological effects of criminal victimization and recognize the urgent need for additional preventative actions. We strongly encourage researchers, clinicians, teachers, and policymakers to help reduce and eliminate hate crimes and bias-related violence and to alleviate the lasting effects on the victims and surrounding communities (APA, PI-GRO). As such, we hope you will support SB 103.

Ashley Greenwell, PhD
UPA Legislative Committee Chair
Utah Psychological Association
(801)214-8510



UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF UTAH
 THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE – THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

February 19, 2019

Dear Governor Herbert, Speaker Wilson, President Adams, Senator Hemmert, Senator Thatcher, and members of the Senate Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice Committee and Utah Senators:

All of us on the Board of the United Jewish Federation of Utah were moved and comforted by the outpouring of support from Utahns of all religions, their religious leaders and the elected leaders of our city, county, and state in the wake of the hateful and tragic shooting of eleven Jews in a Pittsburgh synagogue because they were Jewish. If a similar tragedy were to occur here, our county and state prosecutors would not be able to ensure an enhanced and fitting sentence for a crime motivated by hatred of a whole class of persons if the perpetrator was charged, tried, and convicted. Not long after the tragedy in Pittsburgh, we all became aware of a brutal attack on a young Mexican man in Salt Lake City, targeted because of his actual or perceived national origin.

Because we support SB 103, which enhances the sentences of individuals convicted of a hate crime, our Anti-Semitism Task Force Chair has spoken to the Interfaith Roundtable and the Coalition of Religious Communities, both composed of faith leaders and congregants of virtually all religious denominations. All of their sacred scriptures abhor acts of hatred. All with whom he spoke supported measures that would more severely punish the convicted perpetrators of hate crimes and that would deter or prevent them. They welcomed the idea that Utah, along with over 40 other states, both Republican and Democratic, that have these laws, could presently signal that our state is no place for hate. Not surprisingly, the Mexican Consul, with whom he met, also voiced support for the pending legislation and for an anti-hatred school education and training program developed by the Anti-Defamation League, whose model Hate Crimes Statute is reflected in most of the state laws about hate crimes. We are gratified and encouraged that the bill has received support from the Governor, the Chamber of Commerce, and the support or non-opposition of nearly all the faith communities in Utah, and the members of all the other groups enumerated in the bill. Sixty-four per cent of Utahns, and the majority of each major faith support SB103. Similar bills have been found to be constitutional and enforceable. We don't believe our elected leaders intend to signal that hate crimes are tolerated and not severely punished in Utah. That seems so unlikely in a territory and state founded to escape religious persecution. Because we have shared religious persecution and value the freedom and security to worship as we choose, we hope you will support SB 103. That would dispel any misunderstanding and affirm that Utah is absolutely no place for hate. We will feel proud and more secure to live in a state that signals it has no tolerance for crimes motivated by hatred and bigotry and punishes those who commit them with the severity they deserve.

President

Dganit Herzig Slovik

VP FRD/ Campaign

John Davis

VP Allocations

Melissa Sternfield

VP Community Relations

Ron Zamir

Treasurer

Diane Hartz Warsoff

Secretary

Ben Nitka

Past President

Jay Jacobson

Trustees

Mark Baer

Mark Cantor

Lauren Fredman

Bruce Greenwald

Dick Jaffe

Bill Oshinsky

Liz Paige

Shelley Schwartz

Jodie Sobel

Mike Zuhl

Jay Jacobson, M.D., Past President
 88 S 900 E Ste. 401
 Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Dganit Herzig, President
 1715 Mohawk Circle,
 SLC, UT 84108

Alex Shapiro, Executive Director
 8324 South Willow Creek Drive,
 Sandy, UT 84093

Shelly Schwartz, Trustee
 7961 Mountain Oaks Drive,
 SLC, UT 84121

John Davis, VP FRD
 650 White Pine Court,
 Park City, UT 84060

Executive Director

Alex Shapiro

Richard Jaffe, Trustee
 328 Federal Heights Drive,
 SLC UT 84103

Benjamin Nitka, Secretary
 14 Canyon Court, Park City,
 UT 84060

Liz Paige, Trustee
 2204 Fisher Lane,
 SLC, UT 84109

Mark M. Cantor, Trustee
 1740 Herbert Avenue,
 SLC, UT 84108

Ron Zamir, VP Community Relations
 813 E 13th Avenue, SLC,
 UT 84103

Mike Zuhl, Trustee
 1063 Douglas Street,
 SLC, UT 84105

Melissa Sternfield, VP Allocations
 10894 S Lostwood Drive,
 Sandy, UT 84092

Diane Warsoff, Treasurer
 1433 Ambassador Way,
 SLC, UT 84108

Bruce Greenwald, Trustee
 8976 N Promontory Ranch Rd,
 Park City, UT 84098

Jodie Sobel, Trustee
 PO Box 1681,
 Park City, UT 84060

Mark Baer, Trustee
 PO Box 58915,
 SLC, UT 84158

Bill Oshinsky, Trustee
 2219 Saddlehorn Drive,
 Park City, UT 84098

Brenda Joy Fisher, Development Coordinator
 2750 E 4215 S,
 SLC, UT 84124

Chad Schaeffer, Marketing and Community Outreach
 235 Iowa Street,
 SLC, UT 84102

Dear Rep. Perry and Members of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committee:
 As Faith Leaders in Utah we are very pleased and proud that our leaders are giving strong and careful consideration to a law, SB0103, that will enable us to do as forty four other states do and punish a convicted criminal more severely if the victim is targeted because he or she belongs to a group historically associated with prejudice, violence and vulnerability. We and our congregants manifest many and perhaps all of the characteristics specifically enumerated in the bill: religion, race, ancestry, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin and disability. When anyone is threatened or attacked simply because of one of these characteristics, those of us who share it are devastated, afraid, worried, and anxious about what will happen to our peers, friends, relatives, and ourselves. In particular, when people and groups are targeted because of religion, we and those who share their faith may be reluctant to wear religious attire or symbols, acknowledge our faith, or be fearful when attending religious worship. Virtually all religions' sacred texts and commentary single out hatred as one of the most serious sins. The bill does not make hatred a crime and does not affect the right of free speech, but it does regard hatred as an aggravating factor that could and should be weighed in a convicted criminal's sentence. Just as we punish serial and mass killers and serial rapists more severely, we should acknowledge that someone who attacks someone solely because of an unalterable characteristic or freely chosen religion threatens and harms everyone who belongs to their group. Sixty-four per cent of Utahns, and the majority of each major faith support SB0103. We lead many different faith communities and we strongly support it. We hope you will support it. We will feel proud and more secure to live in a state that signals it has no tolerance for crimes motivated by hatred and bigotry and punishes those who commit them with the severity they deserve.
 Sincerely,

Jay Jacobson, Past President
 United Jewish Federation of
 Utah
 2 North Medical Drive
 Salt Lake city, UT 84113

Rt. Rev. Scott B. Hayashi
 Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Utah
 75 S 200 E
 Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Rev. Curtis L. Price, Pastor
 First Baptist Church of Salt
 Lake City
 777 South 1300 East
 Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Rev. Steven Klemz
 Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church
 1070 S. Foothill Dr.
 Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Rabbi Sam Spector
 Congregation Kol Ami
 2425 Heritage Way
 Salt Lake City, UT 84109

Indra Neale Neelameggham
 Hindu Community
 9859 Dream Cir.
 South Jordan, UT 84095

Rabbi Avremi Zippel
 Program Director
 Chabad Lubavitch of Utah
 1760 S 1100 E
 Salt Lake City, UT 84105

Rev. France Davis
 Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church
 1090 State St.
 Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Rabbi David Levinsky
 Temple Har Shalom
 3700 N Brookside Dr.
 Park City, UT 84098

Rev. David Nichols
 Mount Tabor Lutheran Church,
 ELCA
 175 South 700 East
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

Rev. Myrna Hirst
 3350 Harrison Blvd
 Ogden, UT 84403
 Sister Gachi Guet
 President, the Kadeejha Islamic
 Center 1019 W Parkway Ave,
 West Valley City, UT 84119

Rev. Elizabeth McVicker
 First United Methodist &
 Centenary United
 Methodist Church
 203 E @00 S, SLC, UT 84111