

Preckwinkle  
Reprinted  
Jewish

**On behalf of the international human rights organization, the Simon Wiesenthal Center, I want to thank the President of the Board and the Cook County Board of Commissioners for this opportunity to speak here today in support of the anti-hate resolution, especially in light of yesterday's bomb threat against a Jewish Day School. No one, especially our children, should ever feel frightened or vulnerable, in their schools.**

**We are seeing hate crimes, some of them tragically violent, proliferate throughout the Midwest and the United States. It is imperative that we all stand together and verbally condemn against such acts of hate.**

**This resolution informs and solidifies to the people of the city of Chicago that hate has no place here! Your actions, in**

**defense of Jewish and Muslim institutions are a vivid symbol of what unites Americans and the strength that grows out of our diversity. We must remember that we have more in common, than we have differences.**

**In addition, this resolution establishes a strong and persuasive statement that the City of Chicago will not allow vandalism and threats made against those of the Jewish and Muslim faiths, ----- go unanswered.**

**Although, this resolution is a very important first step, it isn't enough for us to condemn acts of hate, rather, we must work together to eliminate hate as a norm. We do this by eradicating derogatory and racist speech, demanding that social media giants appropriately review and eliminate**

**harmful language and behavior on their sites.**

**We must build bridges between diverse communities which will result in tolerance, understanding, kindness and sensitivity toward others, regardless of race, faith or sexual orientation. If we don't change the rhetoric, then we are also guilty of perpetuating baseless hatred.**

**As Holocaust survivor, Nazi hunter, and my organization's namesake, Simon Wiesenthal, once said, "for evil to flourish it only requires good men (and women) to do nothing".**

**The passing of this anti-hate resolution is concrete proof that evil will not continue to flourish here in Chicago.**

**I have great faith that as our political representatives lead the charge, our communities will follow suit.**

**Thank you.**