

Box 5, Folder 39, Statement for prospective passage of Genocide Legislation, Undated.
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STATEMENT PREPARED BY MARC TANENBAUM FOR PROSPECTIVE PASSAGE OF GENOCIDE LEGISLATION

ON GENOCIDE PASSAGE

The American Jewish Committee today welcomes with profound appreciation the long-awaited adoption of the Genocide Convention by both Houses of the United States Congress.

As an organization that has supported American ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide since its drafting in 1948, we are gratified that the United States now becomes a signatory to this pact making it an international crime to kill or injure members of national, racial, ethnic or religious groups.

Had this convention and the moral consciousness it represents for the prevention of genocide existed in the 1930s; it is not inconceivable that six million Jewish men, women, and children, and millions of other human beings who have been victims of genocidal murders, might have survived.

The American Jewish Committee wishes to express its heartfelt approval of the leadership provided by President Reagan, Secretary Schultz, Senator William Proxmire (D-Wisconsin), and the overwhelming majority of the members of Congress for finally enabling this vital act of justice to prevail.
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