CAIR NEW JERSEY

AMERICA'S LARGEST ISLAMIC CIVIL LIBERTIES AND ADVOCACY GROUP

July 9, 2025

Dear New Jersey Education Association,

The New Jersey chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-NJ) writes to commend the recent decision by the National Education Association (NEA) to end its affiliation with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). We urge the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) to follow suit by ending any partnership with the ADL and removing its materials from New Jersey public schools.

The NEA's decision, supported by its 7,000-member Representative Assembly, reflects widespread concern over the ADL's longstanding record of undermining racial and social justice efforts. Specifically, the ADL has perpetuated anti-Palestinian bias, misused accusations of antisemitism to silence legitimate human rights advocacy, and actively opposed movements like Black Lives Matter and the South African anti-apartheid struggle—movements that educators and students across New Jersey deeply support.
The ADL has also:

- Equated peaceful student protesters with terrorist groups like ISIS and al-Qaeda,
- Platformed notorious anti-Muslim hate figures,
- Downplayed hate crimes against Palestinian Americans,
- Pressured universities and institutions to censor speech around Palestinian freedom.

These actions are fundamentally incompatible with NJEA's stated values of equity, anti-racism, and inclusive education. Continuing to promote or partner with the ADL sends a message that undermines the safety and dignity of Black, Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim students and educators in our schools.

The NEA's decision sets a precedent for moral leadership. As New Jersey's largest education union, NJEA has a powerful opportunity to demonstrate that it stands with its students, not with organizations that perpetuate harm. Ending your relationship with the ADL is not just symbolic; it's a necessary step toward ensuring public education is rooted in justice, truth, and community care.

We encourage NJEA to conduct a transparent review of its relationship with the ADL and act accordingly. CAIR-NJ stands ready to support you in identifying alternative resources and partners that uphold the values our communities deserve

Thank you for your time and commitment to New Jersey's educators and students.

Sincerely,

Mousa Naji

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