

To Whom It May Concern:

After much consideration, I have made the decision to resign from the ASUC- effective immediately- in protest of the vote to reject my resolution holding Bears for Palestine accountable for their glorification of terrorists Rasmia Odeh, Leila Khaled, and Fatima Bernawi in an ASUC-managed space. The near-unanimous rejection of that bill has alienated the vast majority of Jewish students on the UC Berkeley campus and has in their eyes drained the ASUC of legitimacy and moral authority. It has also highlighted what most Jewish students recognize as a culture of antisemitism that has become mainstream on the UC Berkeley campus.

My brief time as an ASUC Senator since the rejection of my bill has left me feeling like Siamak Morsadegh, the sole Jewish member of the parliament of Iran, a country that my family and tens of thousands of Persian Jews fled from in the aftermath of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. My advice to Mr. Morsadegh, which I would be a hypocrite not to follow myself, is that at a certain point, when "change from the inside" becomes impossible, remaining a member of an institution with values diametrically opposed to one's own accomplishes nothing aside from legitimizing the institution in question. It is for this reason that I am severing ties with this year's incarnation of the ASUC. From here on out, I will refocus my efforts on getting more Jewish students and political moderates elected to the ASUC Senate so that we can see real change in the ASUC and on campus going forward.

Sincerely,

Former ASUC Senator Milton Zerman