

The American Jewish Committee

The High-Risk Non-Profit Security Enhancement Act of 2004

In this post-September 11th era, many non-profit institutions, particularly Jewish ones, face a grave threat as targets of terrorist attacks. The nature of these threats is so extraordinary, and the vast costs associated with seeking to safeguard against those threats are such that, unless these institutions are provided with financial assistance, the expenses involved may preclude some institutions from carrying out necessary security enhancements.

Given these concerns, the Board of Governors of the American Jewish Committee hereby endorses the High-Risk Non-Profit Security Enhancement Act of 2004. This legislation would provide for public funds to meet the increasing security costs faced by non-profit institutions, including Jewish ones. These costs, which would be paid by the Department of Homeland Security directly to the contractors, include initial expenditures required for security assessments and mitigation planning, as well as the subsequent purchase and installation of technology such as access control devices, perimeter fencing and gates with intercoms and remote access, security windows and doors, CCTV surveillance cameras and monitors, and enhanced security lighting.

Adopted by the Board of Governors, June 28, 2004