Creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to Foster Dialogue about the Israel-Palestine Conflict

To: Hunter College Senate

From: Senate Administrative Committee

Date: May 1, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hunter College Senate shall create an ad-hoc committee consisting of 4 students (including at least one graduate student), 3 faculty (at least one should be from the professional schools), and 2 members of the staff, whose chair will be elected by committee membership. The charge of this committee will be to foster constructive and respectful dialogue about Israel/Palestine within our community and provide a space in which diverse perspectives can be shared and respected, even in disagreement. The term of this ad-hoc committee will be one academic year with the possibility of renewal.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hunter College Senate unequivocally condemns all acts of violence and aggression in the Israel-Palestine conflict and advocates for a lasting resolution that allows both peoples to live with dignity, sovereignty, freedom, and security;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate reaffirms its commitment to fostering a campus environment that promotes inclusivity, diversity, and mutual respect, and actively opposes all forms of discrimination, including Islamophobia and anti-Semitism;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate urges the USG to continue to engage in dialogue, advocacy, and educational initiatives to raise awareness about the complexities of the Israel-Palestine conflict and encourage constructive discourse and understanding within our community;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate urges the Hunter College administration to provide support and resources for students affected by the conflict and to actively address instances of discrimination and hate speech on campus.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Rationale:

The establishment of an ad-hoc committee by the Hunter College Senate, as outlined in this resolution, is founded on the principles of fostering constructive dialogue and promoting mutual respect within our community regarding the Israel/Palestine conflict. The composition of the committee, comprising students, faculty, and staff members, ensures diverse representation,

thereby facilitating a broad spectrum of perspectives. The committee's primary charge is to create a space where differing viewpoints can be shared and respected, fostering understanding even amidst disagreement. By committing to a term of one academic year, with the potential for renewal, the Senate acknowledges the ongoing nature of the dialogue surrounding this complex issue.