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## 2009-2010 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition (PJC), working individually and collectively with others, represents Pennsylvania's Jewish communities before state government and with other Pennsylvanians. Jewish values guide the PJC's focus on issues of importance to these communities, including public social policies and funding and regulation of the delivery of human services.

### TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Sustain Funding for Social Service Programs
- Improve Services for Senior Citizens
- Expand Child Development Initiatives via Education Improvement Tax Credits (EITC)
- Support Divestment Against Countries who Support Genocide/ Terrorism
- Energy Independence: Alternative Energy Development & Use – Energy Conservation

### LEGISLATIVE ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

#### HUMAN SERVICES

- Increase Funding of Safety Net Programs given Increased Needs in Economic Downturn
- Assistance for Low-Income Families (LIHEAP)
- Improved Food and Shelter Assistance for Individual Needs
- Assistance for Special Needs Population (Adult/ Children) (i.e. MH/MR, Autism, etc.)

#### Care for the Elderly

- Promoting/ Developing Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORC)
- Encourage and Promote Aging in Place Programs
- Promote Safeguards to Protect Senior Adults from Physical or Financial Abuse
- Improve Medicare Funding
- Kosher Food Pantry Assistance – Senior Centers/ Nursing Homes

#### Improved Child Development

- Support Pre-Kindergarten and Private Education Funding
- Improvements to Pennsylvania's Child Care Programs
- Improvements to Pennsylvania's Foster Care System

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Promote Tolerance in Our Society – Oppose Intolerance and Crimes of Hate
- Oppose Immigration Discrimination
- Preserve and Protect the State of Israel
- Creating a Safer and Healthier Environment to Play, Work, and Live

This list is subject to change pending the authorization of the Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition's Board of Directors under the guidance and direction of the Jewish Federations throughout Pennsylvania.