

## **Judea Reform Congregation Expanded Statement in response to North Carolina General Assembly's House Bill 2, June 2016**

*Judea Reform Congregation stands in opposition to North Carolina General Assembly's House Bill 2 (HB2) and calls upon the Governor and Legislature to repeal it in its entirety. We have been, and will remain, a congregation that welcomes transgender and gender non-conforming members and guests. Our prayers are with North Carolinians whose dignity and humanity is under attack by this heartless law, primarily transgender people.*

*In addition to transgender people, HB2 hurts the LGBTQ (lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender/queer) community more broadly, as well as workers, the poor, and people facing discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, national origin, and religion or ideological belief. We stand together and against those who would strip us all of protections under the law. As Reform Jews, we believe that the stamp of the divine is present in all humans. We believe that working people deserve a living wage and that erecting obstacles to justice runs counter to our prophetic tradition and ancient Biblical commandment, "Justice, justice, shall you pursue!" (Deuteronomy 16:20)*

*Board of Trustees approved June 14, 2016*