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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 244 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, ARGALL, EICHELBERGER, BROWNE,  
TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, KILLION, HUTCHINSON, MENSCH, HAYWOOD AND  
COSTA, NOVEMBER 15, 2017

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, NOVEMBER 15, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2017 as "Ukrainian Genocide  
2 Remembrance Month" in Pennsylvania and urge all individuals,  
3 groups, organizations and institutions to remember the  
4 Holodomor with appropriate activities designed to honor its  
5 victims and educate the world about this tragic episode in  
6 the world's history.

7 WHEREAS, Eighty-five years ago, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin  
8 and his totalitarian regime committed an act of genocide through  
9 the implementation of an engineered famine, confiscating land,  
10 grain and animals from the Ukrainian people resulting in the  
11 deaths of up to 10 million innocent men, women and children; and

12 WHEREAS, This genocide, Holodomor, meaning "murder by  
13 starvation," was specifically designed by the Soviet regime to  
14 punish independent-minded Ukrainians for their resistance to its  
15 economic, political and social oppression; and

16 WHEREAS, At the height of the Holodomor in 1933, Ukrainians  
17 died at the rate of 25,000 a day with nearly a third of its  
18 victims being children less than 10 years of age; and

19 WHEREAS, Even as the Soviets continued to export Ukraine's

1 grain to the rest of the world, Ukrainian farmers, who tended to  
2 the farms in the "bread basket of the U.S.S.R.," were tragically  
3 starved to slow and painful deaths; and

4 WHEREAS, Hundreds of archival KGB documents created during  
5 this genocide detailed and described the Soviet regime's actions  
6 and intention to destroy Ukraine's national identity by  
7 deporting and executing Ukraine's religious, intellectual and  
8 cultural leaders, and by prosecuting or executing any others who  
9 dared to speak of the famine or to speak against the Soviet  
10 authorities publicly, further destabilizing Ukraine's political  
11 structure; and

12 WHEREAS, Under the global theme "Ukraine Remembers, the World  
13 Acknowledges," it is necessary that the Ukrainian Genocide of  
14 1932-1933, Holodomor, be officially recognized by the global  
15 community as a tragic and heinous crime against humanity in  
16 order to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future;  
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of November  
19 2017 as "Ukrainian Genocide Remembrance Month" in Pennsylvania  
20 and urge all individuals, groups, organizations and institutions  
21 to remember the Holodomor with appropriate activities designed  
22 to honor its victims and educate the world about this tragic  
23 episode in the world's history and to reflect upon the  
24 historical truth of the heinous crimes of totalitarian regimes,  
25 so that we may one day eliminate tyranny from our world.