

2010 -- H 8041

LC02445

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING "HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY" ON APRIL 21, 2010

Introduced By: Representatives Fox, Mattiello, and Watson

Date Introduced: April 14, 2010

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah) is a solemn day of
2 remembrance honoring the victims of the Holocaust and those who showed resistance and
3 amazing heroism during this horrendous period in our world history. The United States Holocaust
4 Memorial Museum has designated this year's theme to be *Never Again: What You Do Matters*;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Holocaust is the term used to refer to the period in world history from 1933
7 to 1945, before and during World War II, when Adolf Hitler and the Nazis systematically and
8 barbarically persecuted and murdered nearly six million Jews and another five million non-Jews
9 throughout Europe because they were perceived to be "racially inferior" and "unworthy of life";
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The infamous and brutal killing grounds of Auschwitz, Buchenwald,
12 Dachau, and Bergen Belsen today house the unnatural quiet and ghostly calm of somber rows of
13 sanitized barracks and rusting ovens, and stand as silent memorials to the six million Jews and
14 eleven million total victims who succumbed to the deliberate Nazi program of genocide that was
15 the Holocaust; and

16 WHEREAS, This year marks the 67th Anniversary of the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto Uprising
17 and 47th Anniversary of the dedication of the Memorial to the Six Million. The citizens of Rhode
18 Island, having our own rich heritage of resistance and intolerance for those who would trample
19 individual liberty and dignity, applaud the courageous efforts of the ghetto residents for whom
20 day-to-day survival was a relentless struggle. Their brave actions in April and May of 1943 stand

1 as testimony to a rare and indomitable human spirit and extraordinary courage exhibited in the
2 darkest hours of man’s inhumanity; and

3 WHEREAS, Holocaust Remembrance Day is a day to make a special effort to remember
4 –Zachor. It is a time to applaud the men and women who endured and who bravely rebuilt lives
5 that had been so cruelly shattered. It is also a time to acknowledge, with admiration, those heroes
6 who risked and often lost their own lives in order to save others; and

7 WHEREAS, In the words of famed writer Elie Wiesel, “There may be times when we are
8 powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.” Rhode
9 Islanders and people of all nations must take the time to remember the millions of men, women,
10 and children who were slaughtered simply because of their beliefs and their heritage, or their
11 strengths or their frailties, and we must firmly avow that the atrocities of the Holocaust will never
12 be repeated; now, therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island Providence
14 Plantations hereby commemorates “Holocaust Remembrance Day” on April 21, 2010. We call
15 upon our fellow citizens to join us in remembering and honoring the amazing courage and the
16 enormous sacrifices of all those killed during the Holocaust, and we reaffirm our pledge to work
17 to eradicate bigotry, prejudice, brutality, and injustice through education and vigilance; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to
20 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the United States Holocaust Museum, the
21 Rhode Island Holocaust Museum, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, and the Jewish
22 Community Center of Rhode Island.

=====
LC02445
=====