

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 976

Commemorating the celebration of Purim by the Jewish community of the
United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2022

Mr. BALDERSON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Oversight and Reform

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the celebration of Purim by the Jewish
community of the United States.

Whereas the Jewish community in the United States has
made significant contributions to the Nation as a whole;

Whereas antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of
actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity,
identity, affiliation, or faith, remains a persistent, perva-
sive, and disturbing problem in contemporary American
society;

Whereas, in 2022, Purim will be celebrated by the Jewish
community from sundown on March 16 through sundown
March 17;

Whereas Purim is the commemoration of the divinely orches-
trated saving of Jewish people from Haman the Evil, an

Achaemenid Persian Empire grand vizier who intended to kill all the Jews in the ancient Persian Empire;

Whereas, in the 4th century B.C.E., Esther became the new queen of the empire, despite being Jewish, and her cousin, Mordechai, refused to follow Haman's orders, infuriating Haman;

Whereas it states in Megillas Esther (the Book of Esther) that Purim means "lots" in ancient Persian, and the holiday was named such since Haman had thrown lots to determine when he would carry out his plot;

Whereas the Jewish people celebrate Purim by reading of the Megillah, giving gifts to at least two poor people, sending gifts of two kinds of food to at least one person, and by taking part in a Purim feast;

Whereas the traditional food of Purim is hamantaschen, a pastry with poppy seeds or sweet filling; and

Whereas the meanings of Purim are to celebrate the Jewish people reaccepting the Torah with love, specifically Torah she'Baal Peh (verbally transmitted Jewish Law), acknowledge Jewish survival despite Haman's plot, celebrate God's involvement in the world, and celebrate a renewed sense of spirituality among Jewish people: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) stands in solidarity with the Jewish commu-
3 nity in the United States, and throughout the world;

4 (2) recognizes and celebrates the holiday of
5 Purim; and

- 1 (3) wishes the Jewish community a “Chag
- 2 Purim Sameach” (Happy Purim in Hebrew) and
- 3 “ah freilichen Purim” (Happy Purim in Yiddish).

