

2022 -- S 2888

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING "HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY" ON APRIL 28, 2022

Introduced By: Senators Bell, Miller, Kallman, Zurier, and Raptakis

Date Introduced: April 26, 2022

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah), which begins at sunset on
2 the 27th day of the month of Nisan, is a solemn day of remembrance honoring the victims of the
3 Holocaust and those who showed resistance and amazing heroism during this horrendous period
4 in our world history. Seventy-seven years ago, Soviet forces and shortly thereafter, other Allied
5 forces, liberated Auschwitz and other concentration camps, liberating thousands of suffering and
6 starving prisoners; and

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

12 WHEREAS, In the year 1933, nine million Jews lived in Europe, 500,000 of whom lived
13 in Germany, and were subjected to over 400 laws and regulations to strip them of their basic
14 human rights; and

15 WHEREAS, On November 9th and 10th, 1938, referred to as Kristallnacht, Nazis torched
16 synagogues, Jewish homes, schools, and killed Jewish residents, beginning systemic violence
17 against Jews in Germany; and

18 WHEREAS, This year marks the 79th Anniversary of the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto Uprising,
19 where Jews fought and refused to surrender to Nazi forces. Their brave actions in April and May
20 of 1943 stand as testimony to a rare and indomitable human spirit and extraordinary courage

1 exhibited in the darkest hours of man's inhumanity; and

2 WHEREAS, Holocaust Remembrance Day is a day to make a special effort to remember,
3 so that the lessons of our past are never again repeated. The day is also a time to applaud all those
4 who endured and who bravely rebuilt lives that had been so cruelly shattered, and acknowledge,
5 with admiration, those heroes who risked and often lost their own lives in order to save others;
6 now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby recognizes the historic
8 significance of Holocaust Remembrance Day; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
10 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the United States Holocaust Museum, the
11 Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Memorial Education Center, the Board of Rabbis of Greater Rhode
12 Island, and Mr. Adam Greenman, President and CEO of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode
13 Island.

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