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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING JANUARY 27TH OF 2026, AS "INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST
REMEMBRANCE DAY" AND COMMEMORATING THE 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

Introduced By: Representatives Ackerman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,
Kislak, Finkelman, Boylan, McNamara, Knight, and Place
Date Introduced: January 27, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

- 1 WHEREAS, January 27th is observed annually as International Holocaust Remembrance
- 2 Day to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust and to ensure that future generations
- 3 understand the importance of preventing hatred, prejudice, and discrimination; and
- 4 WHEREAS, This year marks the 81st Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz
- 5 concentration camp, where more than 1.1 million men, women and children were brutally
- 6 murdered by the Nazi regime during the Holocaust; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The Holocaust, also known as the Shoah, was the systematic state-
- 8 sponsored persecution and murder of approximately six million Jews by Nazi Germany and
- 9 collaborators during World War II. Millions of others, including Roma, Poles, disabled
- 10 individuals, LGBTQ+ individuals, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, were also
- 11 targeted; and
- 12 WHEREAS, The memory of the Holocaust serves as a stark reminder of the devastating
- 13 consequences of intolerance, bigotry, and hatred, and underscores the importance of promoting
- 14 respect for human rights, equality, and the dignity of all people; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived
- 16 Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, identity, affiliation or faith, remains a disturbingly persistent,
- 17 pervasive and growing problem; and
- 18 WHEREAS, There has been a sharp rise in antisemitism and extremism this past year in
- 19 Rhode Island, across the country, and around the world; and

1 WHEREAS, The citizens of Rhode Island are encouraged to reflect on the lessons of the
2 Holocaust and continue to work together to build a future that values the humanity of each
3 individual, free of antisemitism, hatred and bigotry; and

4 WHEREAS, Survivors of the Holocaust, their families and their communities, as well as
5 the organizations dedicated to preserving Holocaust history, serve as living testaments to the
6 resilience of the human spirit and the importance of ensuring that such atrocities are never
7 repeated; and

8 WHEREAS, Holocaust Remembrance Day calls for the education of future generations
9 about the history and impact of the Holocaust, the importance of combating antisemitism,
10 intolerance, and all forms of hate to ensure that never again means never again; now, therefore be
11 it

12 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
13 recognizes January 27th of 2026, as “International Holocaust Remembrance Day”, a day of
14 reflection and remembrance for the victims and survivors of the Holocaust. We moreover
15 encourage the citizens of our State to participate in activities and educational programs that foster
16 a deeper understanding of the Holocaust, its historical context, and the ongoing fight against
17 hatred, discrimination, and antisemitism; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That this House hereby reaffirms its commitment to support survivors of
19 the Holocaust and honor the legacy of those who perished in the Holocaust by ensuring that their
20 memory endures for generations to come; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
22 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the United States Holocaust Memorial
23 Museum, the Rhode Island Holocaust Museum, the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, the
24 Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, and the Rhode Island Israel Collaborative.

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