

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.132

Senators Moss, Brinks, McMorrow, Chang, Wojno, Hertel, Bayer, Geiss, Polehanki, Hollier, Bullock and Schmidt offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize April 28, 2022, as Holocaust
2 Remembrance Day.

3 Whereas, The horrors of the Holocaust should never be
4 forgotten. The Holocaust was the state-sponsored systematic
5 persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and
6 its collaborators from 1933-1945; and

7 Whereas, The Holocaust resulted in the extermination of six
8 million Jews and their potential decedents. The world's Jewish
9 population was reduced by one-third; and

10 Whereas, Poland, home to the largest Jewish community before

1 World War II, lost 90 percent of its Jewish population. Greece,
2 Yugoslavia, Hungary, Lithuania, Bohemia, the Netherlands, Slovakia,
3 and Latvia each lost more than 70 percent of their Jewish
4 population; and

5 Whereas, Millions more suffered grievous oppression and death
6 under Nazi tyranny based on their religion, including Catholic
7 priests, Christian pastors, and Jehovah's Witnesses; their national
8 origin, including Poles, Soviets, Ukrainians and Sorbs; their
9 ethnicity and culture, including the Romani people; their political
10 beliefs, including courageous resisters and government dissidents;
11 their physical appearance, including those with disabilities; and
12 their sexual orientation and gender identity; and

13 Whereas, The history of the Holocaust allows us to reflect on
14 the moral and ethical responsibilities of individuals, societies,
15 and governments. It also serves as an important reminder of what
16 can happen when we allow bigotry, hatred, and indifference to enter
17 and conquer our societies; and

18 Whereas, It is crucial to educate all citizens about the
19 horrors of genocide and to instill values of tolerance and
20 acceptance in our state's ever-changing and diverse population; and

21 Whereas, The Michigan Legislature enacted PA 170 of 2016 which
22 provided for the board of a school district or board of directors
23 of a public school academy to ensure that the social studies
24 curriculum for grades 8 to 12 includes age- and grade-appropriate
25 instruction about genocide, including, but not limited to, the
26 Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide; and

27 Whereas, PA 170 of 2016 also created the Governor's Council on
28 Genocide and Holocaust Education, a temporary commission, whose
29 tasks include both identifying and notifying schools about

1 resources for teaching about genocide and the Holocaust, as well as
2 to engender and coordinate events, activities, and education that
3 appropriately memorialize the victims of the Holocaust, such as the
4 observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day; now, therefore, be it

5 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
6 body recognize April 28, 2022, as Holocaust Remembrance Day; and be
7 it further

8 Resolved, That in honor of the victims of the Holocaust, the
9 survivors, and their liberators, the citizens of Michigan should
10 reflect upon this terrible event and strive to overcome hatred and
11 intolerance through learning and remembrance.