



HR1283

LRB100 23333 MST 42354 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The year 2017 marked 100 years since the Bolshevik
3 Revolution in Russia which resulted in the world's first
4 communist regime under Vladimir Lenin; this led to decades of
5 oppression and violence under communist regimes throughout the
6 world; and

7 WHEREAS, Based on the philosophy of Karl Marx, communism
8 has proven incompatible with the ideals of liberty, prosperity,
9 and dignity of human life and has given rise to such infamous
10 totalitarian dictators as Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, Ho Chi
11 Minh, Pol Pot, Nicolae Ceausescu, the Castro brothers, and the
12 Kim dynasty; and

13 WHEREAS, A National Day for the Victims of Communism was
14 declared November 7, 2017, condemning communism as a political
15 philosophy "incompatible with liberty, prosperity, and the
16 dignity of human life"; and

17 WHEREAS, Communist regimes worldwide have killed over 100
18 million people and subjected countless others to the worst and
19 most widespread human rights abuses known to history, with
20 victims representing many different ethnicities, creeds, and
21 backgrounds; and

1 WHEREAS, Communist regimes have, as a matter of government
2 policy, robbed their own citizens of the rights of freedom of
3 religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of association through
4 coercion, brutality, and fear; and

5 WHEREAS, Many victims of communism were persecuted as
6 political prisoners for speaking out against these regimes, and
7 others were killed in genocidal state-sponsored purges; and

8 WHEREAS, In addition to violating basic human rights,
9 communist regimes have suppressed freedom of conscience,
10 cultural life, and self-determination movements in over 40
11 nations; and

12 WHEREAS, The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in
13 Washington, D.C. is a nonprofit organization, authorized by
14 unanimous Act of the United States Congress, that educates
15 people about the ideology, history, and legacy of communism and
16 honors the people who have suffered and died under communist
17 regimes; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
20 declare November 7, 2018 as Victims of Communism Memorial Day
21 in the State of Illinois; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation as a
3 symbol of our respect and esteem.