



HJ0044

LRB102 18412 LAW 26351 r

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The year 2021 marks 104 years since the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, which resulted in the world's first communist regime under Vladimir Lenin; this led to decades of oppression and violence under communist regimes throughout the world; and

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

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

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

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1 WHEREAS, Many victims of communism were persecuted as
2 political prisoners for speaking out against these regimes,
3 and others were killed in genocidal state-sponsored purges;
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5 WHEREAS, In addition to violating basic human rights,
6 communist regimes have suppressed freedom of conscience,
7 cultural life, and self-determination movements in over 40
8 nations; and

9 WHEREAS, A National Day for the Victims of Communism was
10 declared on November 7, 2017, condemning communism as a
11 political philosophy incompatible with liberty, prosperity,
12 and the dignity of human life; and

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

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
20 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
21 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we declare November 7, 2021 as
22 Victims of Communism Memorial Day in the State of Illinois;

1 and be it further

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