



SR0193

LRB102 17832 MST 24260 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

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

6

7

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

12

13

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

14

15

16

17

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

18

19

20

21

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
4 through coercion, brutality, and fear; and

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

9 WHEREAS, In addition to violating basic human rights,
10 communist regimes have suppressed freedom of conscience,
11 cultural life, and self-determination movements in over 40
12 nations; 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare November 7,
21 2021 as Victims of Communism Memorial Day in the State of
22 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.