

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 222

Whereas, this year Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day, known in Israel as Yom HaShoah, begins at sundown on Wednesday, April 7th and ends at sundown today, April 8th. In Israel, Yom HaShoah falls on the 27th day of the month of Nisan, which falls on different dates in the United States from year-to-year; and

Whereas, on this date we commemorate those who participated in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and, for several weeks and against all odds, fended off the Nazis' attempts to deport and murder them. In Israel, on the morning of Yom HaShoah, a siren is sounded for two minutes throughout the country, and all work and other activity stops while people remember and honor all who died in the Holocaust; and

Whereas, the Holocaust Education and Awareness Commission of the State of Missouri, whose mission is to promote Holocaust education and awareness throughout the state in order to broaden understanding and discourage bigotry, understands that we must learn from the past so that we do not repeat it; and

Whereas, learning from the past means strongly condemning anti-Semitism, as well as intolerance in all forms and any variety of Holocaust denial. As is widely known, acts of anti-Semitism continue to occur. It has been documented that they are on the rise. One hears and reads of them even within the state of Missouri. Such acts of intolerance, against anyone, should be condemned. Just as neighbors can harm neighbors, neighbors can also stand with neighbors, working to help one another and to improve one another's lives; and

Whereas, it is undeniable that the Holocaust happened. It was among the defining events of the twentieth century. There are still survivors who recall it, and we must hear their stories and learn from them. Listening to survivors, learning from the mistakes of the past, and respectfully looking out for one another's well-being are steps that each of us can take to ensure that the Holocaust never happens again:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, hereby commemorate Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day, known in Israel as Yom HaShoah, remember and honor all of those persons who died in the Holocaust, and condemn all acts of intolerance against any person; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Holocaust Education and Awareness Commission of the State of Missouri.