

SENATE RESOLUTION

8663

By Senators Frockt, Hunt, Cleveland, Das, Keiser, Salomon, Van De Wege, Stanford, Lovelett, Braun, Sheldon, Schoesler, Hawkins, Wellman, Takko, Wilson, C., Zeiger, Saldaña, Dhingra, Liias, Honeyford, Carlyle, Billig, and Rolfes

1 WHEREAS, January 27, 2020, marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of
2 the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration
3 and death camp; and

4 WHEREAS, January 27th was designated as International Holocaust
5 Remembrance Day by United Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/7 in
6 2005; and

7 WHEREAS, The Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic
8 persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and
9 its collaborators; and

10 WHEREAS, Six million Jews were murdered between 1933 and 1945;
11 Roma, people with disabilities, and Poles were also targeted for
12 destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons;
13 and millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's witnesses, soviet
14 prisoners of war, and political dissidents also suffered grievous
15 oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

16 WHEREAS, The history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to
17 reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and
18 governments; and

19 WHEREAS, A 2018 study by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims
20 Against Germany revealed a disturbing lack of knowledge about the
21 Holocaust among Americans; and

1 WHEREAS, There has been a dramatic rise in hate crimes and bias
2 incidents in the last several years, including deadly attacks on the
3 Jewish community; and

4 WHEREAS, The people of the State of Washington should always
5 remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant
6 against hatred, persecution, and tyranny to ensure that the tragedies
7 of the past are never repeated; and

8 WHEREAS, Washington State recognizes the events of the Holocaust
9 not only as the product of unimpeded prejudice and violence, but as a
10 direct attack on our country's most sacred values; and

11 WHEREAS, It is our moral obligation to the victims and survivors
12 of the Holocaust to spread awareness of these tragic events and to
13 reaffirm our united stance against hate; and

14 WHEREAS, Deprivation of human rights based on religion does not
15 just threaten the individual freedoms of those who are targeted, it
16 threatens the foundations of a just society;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate pause in its
18 deliberations to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the
19 liberation of Auschwitz and observe International Holocaust
20 Remembrance Day.

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