

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, As a means of memorializing the victims and the survivors of the Holocaust and other genocides that have occurred throughout history, the Legislature of the State of Texas joins institutions around the world in recognizing the month of April as Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, Across the globe, those atrocities known as genocides have had their origins in the stratification of society and the dehumanization of a group of people by those who harbor intolerance, hatred, and violent proclivities; and

WHEREAS, Many of these genocides have stemmed from events that occurred in the month of April, or have had defining moments at that time of year; in April of 1933, the Nazis issued a decree preparing the way for the "Final Solution" to all of Jewish faith or descent, and the tragedy that ensued was one of the world's most horrific; and

WHEREAS, In April of 1975, the Khmer Rouge entered the Cambodian capital and initiated massacres that led to the death of two million people; in April of 1992, the siege of Sarajevo began, leading to the deaths of more than 2,000 Bosnian Serbs; in April of 2003, the displacement of Darfurians began in Sudan, leading to hundreds of thousands of deaths and the displacement of millions; and in April of 1994, the Rwandan president's plane was shot down, leading to the killing of moderate leaders by Hutu hardliners and

1 the later slaughter of 800,000 Tutsis; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2009, the Texas Legislature unanimously passed
3 Senate Bill 482, which created the Texas Holocaust and Genocide
4 Commission; the commission is dedicated to obtaining, organizing,
5 and distributing information on genocides and to ensuring that
6 schools, organizations, and communities have access to this
7 genocide information and history; and

8 WHEREAS, The legislature has chosen the month of April to
9 emphasize the need to heighten public awareness of the early stages
10 of human behavior that spawn acts of genocide, the need to build
11 strong communities and prevent future genocides, and the need on
12 the state and national levels to continue to honor all who have been
13 victimized by genocide; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
15 hereby declare the month of April each year from 2011 through 2020
16 Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month in tribute to all whose
17 lives were touched by genocide and as a reminder of the need for the
18 protection of human rights and for vigilance against the forces of
19 intolerance; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared in
21 recognition of Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month.

1968
June

S.C.R. No. 39

David Dewhurst
President of the Senate

Joe Straus
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 39 was adopted by the Senate
on May 5, 2011, by a viva-voce vote.

Patsy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 39 was adopted by the House
on May 19, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 2, one
present not voting.

Robert Hines
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

17 JUN '11
Date

RICK PERRY
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
4pm O'CLOCK

JUN 17 2011
Secretary of State