

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 57

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CHIPMAN.

4755H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

Relating to Victims of Communism Memorial Day.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

2           **WHEREAS**, the year 2017 marked 100 years since the Bolshevik Revolution in  
3 Russia, resulting in the world's first communist regime, under Vladimir Lenin, and leading to  
4 decades of oppression and violence under communist regimes throughout the world; and

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

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

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14           **WHEREAS**, the bipartisan U.S. Congressional Caucus for the Victims of  
15 Communism stated publicly in 2018 that "Marx's defenders often say he cannot be held  
16 accountable for what communist regimes did long after his life and death; but Marxist  
17 dictators who massacred their own people were applying communist ideology to political  
18 practice"; and

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20           **WHEREAS**, communist regimes worldwide have killed more than 100 million  
21 people and subjected countless others to the worst and widest-spread human rights abuses

22 known to history, with victims representing many different ethnicities, creeds, and  
23 backgrounds; and

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25       **WHEREAS**, through false promises of equality and liberation, communist regimes  
26 have, as a matter of government policy, robbed their own citizens of the rights of freedom of  
27 religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of association through coercion, brutality, and fear;  
28 and

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30       **WHEREAS**, many victims of communism were persecuted as political prisoners for  
31 speaking out against these regimes, and others were killed in genocidal state-sponsored  
32 purges; and

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34       **WHEREAS**, in addition to violating basic human rights, communist regimes have  
35 suppressed freedom of conscience, cultural life, and self-determination movements in more  
36 than 40 nations:

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38       **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
39 Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the  
40 Senate concurring therein, hereby designate November 7th of each year as Victims of  
41 Communism Memorial Day; and

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43       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
44 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the  
45 Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation; and

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47       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his  
48 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

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