

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 59

## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CHIPMAN.

3741H.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:*

1           **WHEREAS**, the year 2017 marked 100 years since the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia  
2 resulting in the world’s first communist regime under Vladimir Lenin, which led to decades of  
3 oppression and violence under communist regimes throughout the world; and  
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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 rise  
7 to such infamous totalitarian dictators as Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh, Pol Pot,  
8 Nicolae Ceausescu, the Castro brothers, and the Kim dynasty; and  
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10           **WHEREAS**, President Donald Trump declared November 7, 2017, a National Day for  
11 the Victims of Communism, condemning communism as a political philosophy “incompatible  
12 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 Communism  
15 stated publicly in 2018 that “Marx’s defenders often say he cannot be held accountable for what  
16 communist regimes did long after his life and death; but Marxist dictators who massacred their  
17 own people were applying communist ideology to political practice,” and  
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19           **WHEREAS**, communist regimes worldwide have killed more than 100 million people  
20 and subjected countless others to the worst and widest-spread human rights abuses known to  
21 history, with victims representing many different ethnicities, creeds, and backgrounds; and  
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23           **WHEREAS**, through false promises of equality and liberation, communist regimes have  
24 as a matter of government policy robbed their own citizens of the rights of freedom of religion,

25 freedom of speech, and freedom of association through coercion, brutality, and fear; and

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

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31       **WHEREAS**, in addition to violating basic human rights, communist regimes have  
32 suppressed freedom of conscience, cultural life, and self-determination movements in more than  
33 40 nations:

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35       **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
36 Representatives of the One Hundredth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
37 concurring therein, hereby designate November 7 of each year as Victims of Communism  
38 Memorial Day; and

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

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

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