
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 198 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY DUSH, ROTHMAN, LANGERHOLC, MARTIN, ARGALL,
HUTCHINSON AND MASTRIANO, OCTOBER 31, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, OCTOBER 31, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating November 7, 2023, as "Victims of Communism Memorial
2 Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The year 2023 marks 32 years since the fall of the
4 Soviet Union; and

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

11 WHEREAS, One-fifth of the world's population still live under
12 communist tyranny in countries like China, Venezuela and Cuba
13 where atrocities like genocide, food shortages, forced labor and
14 internment occur; and

15 WHEREAS, The Victims of Communism Museum opened on June 13,
16 2022, in Washington, DC, to educate visitors about the history
17 and horrors of communism; and

18 WHEREAS, Communist regimes worldwide have killed more than

1 100 million people and subjected countless others to the worst
2 and widest-spread human rights abuses known to history, with
3 victims representing many different ethnicities, creeds and
4 backgrounds; and

5 WHEREAS, Through false promises of equality and liberation,
6 communist regimes have, as a matter of government policy, robbed
7 residents of the rights of freedom of religion, freedom of
8 speech and freedom of association through coercion, brutality
9 and fear; and

10 WHEREAS, Many victims of communism were persecuted as
11 political prisoners for speaking out against these communist
12 regimes and others were killed in genocidal, state-sponsored
13 purges; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition to violating basic human rights,
15 communist regimes have suppressed freedom of conscience,
16 cultural life and self-determination movements in more than 40
17 nations; and

18 WHEREAS, The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in
19 Washington, DC, a nonprofit organization authorized by a
20 unanimous act of the Congress of the United States, educates
21 people about the ideology, history and legacy of communism and
22 honors those who have suffered and died under communist regimes;
23 therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
25 designate November 7, 2023, as "Victims of Communism Memorial
26 Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Senate of the
28 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania transmit a copy of this resolution
29 to the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation so that members
30 of the organization may be apprised of the Commonwealth's action

1 on this matter; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Senate of the
3 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania post this designation on the
4 publicly accessible Internet website of the Senate.