

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 11

House concurrent resolution designating January 23–27, 2023 as the first annual Holocaust Education Week in Vermont

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, the Holocaust refers to Nazi Germany's annihilation during the Second World War of six million Jews, as well as millions of others, including Romas, LGBTQ, persons with disabilities, political dissidents, and members of other targeted populations, and

Whereas, the pervasive level of antisemitism embedded in the Nazis' political philosophy was first manifested when they came to power in 1933, and rose to a new intensity on November 9, 1938, when on Kristallnacht (also known as the Night of Broken Glass or the November Pogrom), Nazis and their sympathizers destroyed hundreds of synagogues and more than 7,000 Jewish-owned businesses, and vandalized Jewish cemeteries, resulting in the deaths of approximately 100 and the arrest of 30,000 Jewish men, foreshadowing the Holocaust, and

Whereas, in 2021, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) documented a 34 percent rise over 2020 in antisemitic incidents in the United States, with 2,717 occurrences of assault, harassment, or vandalism, the highest number since the ADL began tracking this statistic on an annual basis in 1979, and

Whereas, even in Vermont's schools, the student sharing of Nazi imagery has increased, and

Whereas, history has repeatedly shown that hatred directed toward Jews inexorably metastasizes and threatens other marginalized groups, and

Whereas, the Vermont Holocaust Memorial, Echoes & Reflections, and other Holocaust education organizations are collaborating for the first time with the Agency of Education to offer a Holocaust Education Week in Vermont's schools during the week of January 23–27, 2023, which coincides with the observance of International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27, 2023, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates January 23–27, 2023 as the first annual Holocaust Education Week in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont Holocaust Memorial President Debora Steinerman, and to the Vermont Agency of Education.