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H.C.R. No. 26

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Throughout history, countless lives have been lost
2 to oppressive communist regimes; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2017, November 7 was designated as a national day
4 of remembrance for the victims of communism; the date commemorates
5 the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia in 1917, when
6 the first communist regime, led by Vladimir Lenin, initiated
7 decades of oppression and violence around the world; despite
8 promises of equality and liberation, communist dictators such as
9 Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh, Pol Pot, Nicolae Ceausescu,
10 Fidel and Raúl Castro, and the Kim dynasty of North Korea have
11 murdered vast numbers of people in genocidal purges, persecuted
12 others for speaking out, and suppressed freedom of thought,
13 cultural life, and self-determination movements in more than 40
14 nations; and

15 WHEREAS, Based on the theories of Karl Marx, this political
16 ideology has been responsible for the deaths of more than 100
17 million people, and it has subjected countless others to some of the
18 worst human rights abuses in history; as the bipartisan
19 U.S. Congressional Caucus for the Victims of Communism has stated,
20 "Marx's defenders often say he cannot be held accountable for what
21 communist regimes did long after his life and death, but Marxist
22 dictators who massacred their own people were applying communist
23 ideology to political practice"; and

24 WHEREAS, Under Chapter [443](#), Government Code, and rules of the

1 State Preservation Board, a portion of the north Capitol grounds is
2 available for new monuments, subject to legislative approval,
3 specified procedural requirements, the provision of funding from
4 private donors, conformity to certain size and design limitations
5 and parameters, and completion on a timely basis; and

6 WHEREAS, A memorial on the Capitol grounds would provide a
7 communal place for Texans to honor the legacies of those who lost
8 their lives to communism; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby authorize the State Preservation Board, subject to state law
11 and rules of the board, to approve the construction of a monument
12 honoring victims of communism at the State Capitol Complex, at a
13 site outside of the historic Capitol grounds; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an
15 official copy of this resolution to the executive director of the
16 State Preservation Board.