

By: Parker

S.C.R. No. 16

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Each November, individuals around the globe mark the
3 somber anniversary of the *Holodomor*, the brutal and systematic
4 starvation inflicted on the Ukrainian people by Joseph Stalin's
5 Soviet regime in 1932 and 1933, an atrocity that resulted in the
6 deaths of millions of people; and

7 WHEREAS, In the years following the formation of the Soviet
8 Union, political and ethnic tensions remained high in Ukraine, and
9 a series of independence movements and revolts occurred throughout
10 the 1920s, threatening Soviet rule; in response, the Stalinist
11 government sought to erode the Ukrainian national identity and
12 quash any resistance; and

13 WHEREAS, Beginning in 1932, an artificial famine was created
14 when Soviet officials greatly increased farm quotas and confiscated
15 livestock, grain, and other crops; residents were confined to the
16 region and purposefully left to starve, even as the Soviets
17 continued to export locally grown grain to other areas; in
18 addition, Ukrainian intellectual, cultural, and religious leaders
19 were targeted for arrest and execution; and

20 WHEREAS, While estimates vary, it is thought that between 3.5
21 and 10 million Ukrainians perished in the *Holodomor*, a term meaning
22 "murder by starvation"; moreover, those who spoke out about the
23 true nature of the famine were prosecuted or executed; and

24 WHEREAS, The *Holodomor* has been recognized as an act of

1 genocide by the United States Senate and the U.S. Commission on the
2 Ukrainian Famine, as well as by legislative bodies in Australia,
3 Canada, Mexico, Poland, and numerous other nations; and

4 WHEREAS, With the threat of genocide and tyranny still
5 present in our world, this horrific episode in human history offers
6 warnings that remain strikingly relevant, and it is incumbent upon
7 the global community to learn from the past in order to prevent
8 similar atrocities from occurring in the future; now, therefore, be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas
11 hereby designate the month of November as Ukrainian Genocide
12 Remembrance Month and urge the state's residents to reflect on the
13 *Holodomor* and honor the memory of those who perished; and, be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
16 [391.004\(d\)](#), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
17 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
18 passed by the legislature.