

By: Oliverson

H.R. No. 24

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In 2017, President Donald Trump designated November
2 7 as a national day of remembrance for the victims of communism; and

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

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

22 WHEREAS, The United States Congress has established the
23 Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C., a
24 nonprofit organization tasked with the dual purpose of educating

1 Americans about the history and legacy of communism and honoring
2 those who have suffered and died under it; and

3 WHEREAS, For more than a century, communist regimes have
4 deprived their own citizens of the freedoms of religion, speech,
5 and association, and their official policies of coercion,
6 brutality, and fear have proven incompatible with the ideals of
7 liberty, prosperity, and the dignity of human life; now, therefore,
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
10 Legislature hereby recognize November 7, 2019, as Victims of
11 Communism Memorial Day and commend all those associated with the
12 Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation for their important work;
13 and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for the foundation as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives.