

By: Parker

H.R. No. 253

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

23 WHEREAS, The *Holodomor* has been recognized as an act of
24 genocide by the United States Senate and the U.S. Commission on the

1 Ukrainian Famine, as well as by legislative bodies in Australia,
2 Canada, Mexico, Poland, and numerous other nations; and

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

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
10 Legislature hereby recognize November 2021 as Ukrainian Genocide
11 Remembrance Month and urge the state's residents to reflect on the
12 *Holodomor* and honor the memory of those who perished.