
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 204 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY COLLETT, HAYWOOD, PENNYCUICK, CAPPELLETTI,
TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, SANTARSIERO, FONTANA, KANE, COSTA AND
ARGALL, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of November 2023 as "Ukrainian Holodomor-
2 Genocide Remembrance Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Ninety years ago, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin and
4 his totalitarian regime committed an act of genocide through the
5 implementation of an engineered famine, confiscating all
6 foodstuffs from the Ukrainian people resulting in the deaths of
7 7 to 10 million innocent men, women and children; and

8 WHEREAS, This genocide, Holodomor, meaning "murder by
9 starvation," was specifically designed by the Soviet regime to
10 punish independent-minded Ukrainians for their resistance to
11 Stalin's political, economic, cultural and social subjugation;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Even as the Soviets continued to export Ukraine's
14 grain to the rest of the world, Ukrainian farmers, who tended to
15 the farms in the breadbasket of Europe, were purposefully
16 starved in a slow and painful death; and

17 WHEREAS, At the height of the Holodomor in 1933, Ukrainians

1 died at the rate of 25,000 per day with nearly a third of the
2 victims being children under 10 years of age; and

3 WHEREAS, Hundreds of archival KGB documents created during
4 this genocide detailed and described the Soviet regime's
5 intention and actions to destroy Ukraine's national identity by
6 deporting and executing Ukraine's religious, intellectual and
7 cultural leaders and prosecuting or executing others who dared
8 to speak of the Holodomor; and

9 WHEREAS, Through a recently released major motion film
10 entitled "Mr. Jones," depicting Welsh journalist Gareth Jones
11 who witnessed and reported on the Holodomor, the world is
12 afforded an opportunity to understand the realities of the
13 Soviet crime; and

14 WHEREAS, The official recognition of the Holodomor as a
15 genocide by the government of Ukraine represents a significant
16 step in adjudicating Soviet crimes, reaffirming Ukraine's
17 national identity and advancing efforts to establish a
18 democratic and free Ukraine that is fully integrated into the
19 western community of nations; and

20 WHEREAS, The current war in Ukraine has been identified as a
21 genocide and is yet another example of relentless Russian
22 aggression attempting to suppress a freedom-loving nation and
23 its social, cultural, historical, economic and national
24 development; and

25 WHEREAS, In relating the historical context of the 1932-1933
26 Holodomor and the current war in Ukraine, the poignant theme as
27 we approach the upcoming 90th anniversary commemoration of the
28 Holodomor remains profound and significant: "Holodomor Then,
29 Genocide Now, Justice When?"; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of November

1 2023 as "Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Remembrance Month" in
2 Pennsylvania; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge all individuals, groups,
4 organizations and institutions to remember the Holodomor with
5 appropriate activities designed to honor its victims and educate
6 the world about this tragic episode in the world's history; and
7 be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the citizens of the
9 Commonwealth to reflect, throughout this 90th anniversary year,
10 upon the historical truth of the heinous crimes of totalitarian
11 regimes and recommit to the elimination of tyranny from our
12 world.