

**No. R-209. House concurrent resolution recognizing January 27, 2026, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Vermont.**

(H.C.R.174)

Offered by Representatives Rachelson of Burlington and Chapin of East Montpelier

*Whereas*, January 27 is observed annually as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust and to ensure that future generations understand a recurrence must be prevented, and

*Whereas*, the Holocaust, also known as the Shoah, was the systematic state-sponsored persecution and murder of approximately six million Jews by Nazi Germany and its collaborators during World War II; and millions of others, including Roma, Poles, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ+ individuals, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents were also targeted, and

*Whereas*, the date for International Holocaust Remembrance Day was selected because it marks the January 27, 1945, anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Concentration Camp, where the Nazis murdered at least 1.5 million men, women, and children, and

*Whereas*, the memory of the Holocaust serves as a stark reminder of the devastating consequences of intolerance and bigotry and a warning that, if not remembered, the same can occur again, and

*Whereas*, antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, identity, affiliation, or faith, remains a disturbingly persistent and pervasive problem, and

*Whereas*, survivors of the Holocaust, their families and communities, and the organizations, such as the Vermont Holocaust Memorial, that are dedicated to preserving Holocaust history serve as living testaments to the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of ensuring that such atrocities are never repeated, and

*Whereas*, the intention of International Holocaust Remembrance Day is to educate the world concerning the horrors of the Holocaust and, locally, to encourage Vermonters to work together for a society that respects every individual, that is devoid of all antisemitism, and that prevents the reoccurrence of such a massive human tragedy, a mission that the Vermont Holocaust Memorial addresses daily through educational and informational programs, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives***

That the General Assembly recognizes January 27, 2026, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Vermont, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Holocaust Memorial.