

105TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 295

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933 should serve as a reminder of the brutality of the government of the former Soviet Union's repressive policies toward the Ukrainian people.

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Whereas this year marks the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933 that caused the deaths of at least 7,000,000 Ukrainians and that was covered up and officially denied by the government of the former Soviet Union;

Whereas millions of Ukrainians died, not by natural causes such as pestilence, drought, floods, or a poor harvest, but

by policies designed to punish Ukraine for its aversion and opposition to the government of the former Soviet Union's oppression and imperialism, including the forced collectivization of agriculture;

Whereas, when Ukraine was famine-stricken, the government of the former Soviet Union exported 1,700,000 tons of grain to the West while offers from international relief organizations to assist the starving population were rejected on the grounds that there was no famine in Ukraine and no need for the assistance;

Whereas the borders of Ukraine were tightly controlled and starving Ukrainians were not allowed to cross into Russian territory in search of bread;

Whereas, in his book "The Harvest of Sorrow", British historian Robert Conquest explains, "A quarter of the rural population, men, women, and children, lay dead or dying, the rest in various stages of debilitation with no strength to bury their families or neighbors.";

Whereas the Commission on the Ukraine Famine was established on December 13, 1985, to conduct a study with the goal of expanding the world's knowledge and understanding of the famine and to expose the government of the former Soviet Union for its atrocities in the famine;

Whereas the Commission's report to Congress confirmed that the government of the former Soviet Union consciously employed the brutal policy of forced famine to repress the Ukrainian population and to oppress the Ukrainians' inviolable religious and political rights; and

Whereas the Commission on the Ukraine Famine presented 4 volumes of findings and conclusions, 10 volumes of archival material, and over 200 cassettes of testimony from

famine survivors to the newly independent Government of Ukraine in 1993, during the official observances of the 60th anniversary of the Ukrainian famine in Kyiv, Ukraine: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

4 It is the sense of Congress that—

5 (1) the victims of the government of the former
 6 Soviet Union-engineered Ukrainian Famine of
 7 1932–1933 be solemnly remembered on its 65th an-
 8 niversary;

9 (2) the Congress condemns the systematic dis-
 10 regard for human life, human rights, human liberty,
 11 and self-determination that characterized the repres-
 12 sive policies of the government of the former Soviet
 13 Union during the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933;

14 (3) on the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian
 15 Famine of 1932–1933, in contrast to the policies of
 16 the government of the former Soviet Union, Ukraine
 17 is moving toward democracy, a free-market economy,
 18 and full respect for human rights, and it is essential
 19 that the United States continue to assist Ukraine as
 20 it proceeds down this path; and

21 (4) any supplemental material that will assist in
 22 the dissemination of information about the Ukrain-

1 ian Famine of 1932–1933, and thereby help to pre-
2 vent similar future tragedies, be compiled and made
3 available worldwide for the study of the devastation
4 of the famine.

5 **SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL OF THE RESOLUTION.**

6 The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall—

7 (1) transmit a copy of this resolution to—

8 (A) the President;

9 (B) the Secretary of State; and

10 (C) the co-chairs of the Congressional

11 Ukrainian Caucus; and

12 (2) request that the Secretary of State transmit

13 a copy of this resolution to the Government of

14 Ukraine.

 Passed the House of Representatives October 10,
1998.

 Attest:

Clerk.