

Recognizing Child Advocacy Center Month allows us not only to raise awareness around the abuse and neglect that many of our children face every day, but also recognize the important work that child advocacy centers do in providing training, prevention, intervention, and treatment services to combat child abuse and neglect so that our Nation's children can live without fear.

Child abuse may include physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse; and often children are victims of multiple forms of abuse. Statistics show that one in four girls and one in seven boys will be sexually abused before age 18. This saddening number highlights the need for child advocacy centers and will provide a place for various members from the community to provide the abused child with appropriate treatment and prevent further victimization while also deciding the best ways to investigate and prosecute child abuse cases.

In May of 1985, the National Child Advocacy Center opened in Huntsville, Alabama. It was the first center to utilize the resources of not only law enforcement and criminal justice professionals, but also child protective services and medical and mental health professionals in one comprehensive group.

In the 25 years since the creation of the Child Advocacy Center model, more than 900 centers have followed in those important first footsteps. Research has shown that education and support for communities has been successful in preventing child abuse. Therefore, it is imperative that, as members of the community, we know how we can help prevent and stop ongoing child abuse. Child advocacy centers provide an important element in these prevention activities. This is why I stand in support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I think one of the greatest tragedies in America today is child abuse. The stories that you read, the horrific stories that you read in the newspapers, to me, are beyond comprehension when you see children die or children are abused. And this abuse will affect them—I have seen this as a physician—30, 40, 50 years after the abuse. I find it incomprehensible that an adult or anyone would abuse a child. You're only a child for a very short time in your life. I was blessed with a loving mother and father to be raised with, so I can't comprehend the situation that many children find themselves.

I want to encourage our colleagues, I want to thank all of the people in this country who get up every day and deal with these tragedies. This is very hard for the caregivers and people who deal with this—law enforcement personnel, the nurses, the doctors, the social workers who deal with this on a daily basis. It's difficult for them, too.

From the bottom of my heart, I absolutely support this, and I want to encourage everyone in this House to wholeheartedly support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I once again want to thank Representative GRIFFITH for bringing this bill forward, and I thank Representative ROE for his support of this initiative. I support it, and I ask my colleagues to join me in support of Resolution 1313.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1313.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

CALLING FOR DIGNITY, COMFORT, AND SUPPORT FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 323) supporting the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 323

Whereas during the Holocaust, which took place between 1933 and 1945, an estimated 6,000,000 Jews and other targeted groups were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators;

Whereas prior to and during World War II, the United States consistently refused to permit large-scale immigration of Jewish refugees, including the refusal of 936 Jewish refugees on the SS St. Louis in 1939;

Whereas after the end of World War II and the liberation of the concentration, labor, and death camps, many Jewish refugees who returned home were the victims of numerous violent pogroms, and those who did not return were housed in displaced persons camps in Europe;

Whereas between 1945 and 1952, approximately 96,000 Holocaust survivors displaced after the end of World War II were admitted to the United States;

Whereas since 1952, more than 100,000 additional Holocaust survivors, including Russian immigrants who suffered from persecu-

tion and anti-Semitic acts under the Soviet regime, emigrated to the United States;

Whereas approximately 127,000 Holocaust survivors remain in the United States, and many pass away each year;

Whereas those who survived torture and forced labor under Nazi occupation in concentration, labor, and death camps, as well as those who were forced to flee to a country or region not under Nazi rule or occupation during that time, continue to live with the scars of this unconscionable tragedy;

Whereas all Holocaust survivors are at least 65 years old with approximately three-quarters of them older than 75 and a majority in their 80s and 90s;

Whereas approximately two-thirds of Holocaust survivors are elderly women who have challenges such as family caregiving, face risks such as isolation and financial insecurity, and have specific health needs;

Whereas Holocaust survivors are 5 times more likely to be living below the poverty line than other older people living in the United States, and more than half of all Holocaust survivors fall beneath 200 percent of the Federal poverty threshold;

Whereas Holocaust survivors are more reliant on social service programs than most people in the United States over the age of 65, with proportionally more survivors than other older people needing home health care;

Whereas approximately two-thirds of Holocaust survivors live alone, and living alone is a risk factor for institutionalization;

Whereas while institutionalized settings are beneficial for some older people in the United States, institutions have a disproportionate adverse effect on Holocaust survivors by reintroducing the sights, sounds, and routines of institutionalization that are reminiscent of experiences during the Holocaust;

Whereas Holocaust survivors are getting older and frailer, and will be seeking support and assistance from social service providers to enable them to age in place; and

Whereas the United States represents and defends the values of freedom, liberty, and justice and has a moral obligation to acknowledge the plight and uphold the dignity of Holocaust survivors to ensure their well-being in their remaining years: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) supports the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years;

(2) applauds the nonprofit organizations and agencies that work tirelessly to honor and assist Holocaust survivors in their communities;

(3) urges the Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Administration on Aging (AoA), to provide Holocaust survivors with needed social services through existing programs; and

(4) encourages the Administration on Aging to expeditiously develop and implement programs that ensure Holocaust survivors are able to age in place in their communities and avoid institutionalization during their remaining years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 323 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 323, which supports the goals of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years.

During the Holocaust, which took place between 1933 and 1945, the Nazis and their partners murdered an estimated 6 million Jews and other targeted groups. Those who survived torture and forced labor under Nazi occupation continue to live with the scars of this horrible tragedy.

□ 1740

This resolution supports the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity and comfort in their remaining years. I applaud the nonprofit organizations and agencies that work extensively to honor and assist the Holocaust survivors in their communities.

This resolution urges the administration and the Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Administration on Aging, to provide Holocaust survivors with needed social services through existing programs.

Lastly, the resolution encourages the Administration on Aging to develop and implement programs that ensure Holocaust survivors are able to age in place in their communities and avoid being institutionalized during their remaining years.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for introducing this resolution, and once again express my support. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 323, to support the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years. Sixty-seven years ago, a brave group of Jewish resistance fighters rose up against their German occupiers in the Warsaw Ghetto when the Nazis attempted to transport the re-

maining population to Treblinka extermination camp. Launched on January 18, 1943, the bulk of the uprising took place from April the 19 through May 16. It was the largest single revolt by the Jewish people during the Holocaust.

The United States officially commemorates the Holocaust during the Days of Remembrance, which is held each April, marking the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. For the Holocaust survivors admitted or emigrated to the United States in the wake of the horrific atrocities during World War II, these events are a stark reminder of the darkness and hate they endured on a daily basis for more than 12 years.

Today, there are more than 36 million people in the United States who are over the age of 65, making it the fastest growing age group in the country. Of this total, more than 127,000 are Holocaust survivors remaining in the United States. All Holocaust survivors are at least 65 years old, and approximately three-quarters of them are older than 75 years of age, and a majority in their eighties and nineties. As more of these survivors age every year, our Federal, State, and local governments must provide them with the needed services they need to maintain their health and independence in their homes and communities.

The U.S. Administration on Aging, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and responsible for administering the Older Americans Act, plays an important role in organizing and delivering social services for elderly Americans. The Older Americans Act is the first stop for seniors and their families to identify home- and community-based long-term care options, as well as transportation, nutrition, and referral to home care, health, and other social services.

When Congress, led by the Education and Labor Committee, last reauthorized the law in 2006, we strengthened the act to promote consumer choice, as well as home- and community-based supports to help older individuals avoid institutional care, improve health and nutrition programs, and educational and volunteer services, increase Federal, State, and local coordination, and reform employment-based training for older Americans. These important changes will ensure the quality and effectiveness of Federal programs aimed at assisting the elderly, including the Holocaust survivors still living and residing in the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor 127,000 survivors of the Holocaust currently living in the United States, and we pay tribute to those brave souls who have passed away over the last six decades. We applaud the work of nonprofit organizations and agencies that have worked and continued to work tirelessly to honor and to assist Holocaust survivors in their local communities.

And we must commit to providing those survivors with needed social services so they are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years.

I urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 323.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), who is the author of this resolution.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer House Concurrent Resolution 323, Ensuring that Holocaust Survivors Live with Dignity, Comfort, and Security. This important resolution recognizes the plight of Holocaust survivors, honors their unique needs, and pledges to help survivors attain the utmost comfort and well-being in their remaining years. And I want to thank my colleague from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) for cosponsoring it with me.

At the end of World War II, the Jewish population of Europe had been decimated through brutal, systematic annihilation by the Nazis. The atrocities perpetrated by the Nazi regime against Jews, Roma, the disabled, and other minority populations introduced a level of inhumanity previously unknown to this world. The Holocaust is a stain on our history which our society has pledged to never forget lest we risk repeating the barbarity of the past. The Jewish population around the world is still grieving from the loss of 6 million.

In the wake of this incomparable human destruction, thousands of survivors immigrated to America. Here, they hoped to secure a better future for themselves and their children. Escaping a ravaged Europe, survivors saw our Nation as a global example of freedom, liberty, and justice. They left the wreckage of the Holocaust and sought comfort on our shores. These brave survivors, who faced the terror of concentration camps, the trauma of fleeing Nazi occupation, and the grief of losing so many loved ones, embraced the American dream, raised families, and enriched our Nation and society in fields ranging from academia to medicine, art and government. Our country is stronger for their contributions, and our children have learned so much from the experiences of Holocaust survivors.

Now, more than 70 years later, there is more we can and must do to ensure that those who survived such atrocities live out their remaining years in peace. There are more than 127,000 Holocaust survivors still living in our Nation today, with more than three-quarters of them older than age 75, and a majority in their eighties and nineties. Roughly two-thirds of all survivors in America live alone, and many lack the financial resources for the most basic

necessities, including proper housing and health care. In fact, a majority of Holocaust survivors fall below 200 percent of the Federal poverty line, equivalent to \$21,660 per year, making this fragile community most at risk for being forced into a group living situation.

It is a little known tragedy that so many survivors of the death camps have aged in poverty and destitution in the United States. As a Nation that so strongly upholds the values of freedom and justice, we have a moral obligation to acknowledge the plight of these survivors and uphold their dignity to ensure their well-being in their remaining years. It is vital that we help this population, as a testament to what they have endured, and to fulfill the promise of justice that they sought in the United States.

As victims of terror and torture, these survivors have special needs that would benefit from the further development of social service programs to allow survivors to age in place in their current residences. Institutionalized settings, while appropriate and even beneficial for many older Americans, have a disproportionately adverse effect on Holocaust survivors, as these environments reintroduce the sights, sounds, and routines reminiscent of experiences during the Holocaust.

It is impossible for us to imagine the traumatic nightmares that survivors still experience. That is why it is so important for us to help this particular population secure alternatives to institutionalization such as aging in place, which may be more appropriate for a Holocaust survivor.

In introducing this legislation, we applaud those organizations that have already dedicated their tireless efforts to honoring and assisting Holocaust survivors in their communities across the country. These organizations strive every day to improve the difficult situations facing survivors in our communities. It is important that in coming years Congress work with the administration and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide Holocaust survivors with needed social services through existing programs, such as at the Administration on Aging.

It is fortuitous that this resolution comes to the floor the same week that we celebrate Chanukah, the Jewish festival of lights. This holiday is a time to dedicate ourselves to the ideals of justice. At a time of year when people of all backgrounds are exchanging gifts, we must remember those in our society who have had so much taken from them in their lifetimes. We must share these stories and proclaim these lessons in public, that ours is a Nation of freedom and justice for all.

Our children's generation will be the last to know Holocaust survivors and hear their stories firsthand. We must

do all we can to honor their struggles and their lives by granting them the utmost peace in their remaining years.

I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their strong support; 102 Members are cosponsors of this resolution.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to my distinguished colleague from Virginia (Mr. WOLF).

□ 1750

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 323 and thank the gentleman for yielding.

I believe we have a moral obligation to ensure that all members of our society are able to age with grace and dignity and to speak out, to speak out if we notice that a particular group within our society is facing unique barriers toward this goal.

As many have noted earlier, there are approximately 127,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States today. Despite being victims of unfathomable crimes, and crimes that unfortunately the world stood by and looked the other way for years and years, these individuals immigrated and assimilated into the United States to become valuable members and contributors to our society.

Nursing homes and assisted care settings provide many of my constituents with an invaluable service and caring homes. However, we are noticing that a disproportionate number of Holocaust survivors, many of whom are now in their eighties and nineties, are not able to easily transition to these facilities.

This is specifically due to their horrific past experiences. Just remember the movie, *Schindler's List*. Many facilities simply do not have the additional resources that would be necessary to care for most of these survivors.

Given this challenge, it is important we work to raise awareness of existing opportunities to minimize this emerging situation. Many Holocaust survivors and the nonprofit organizations and agencies that work with them daily have found that aging-in-place programs help to alleviate this problem.

I urge that the administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with the Administration on Aging, and nonprofit groups, work with the Holocaust survivors to address their needs through existing programs and also to work on developing innovative and efficient solutions to address this challenge.

I am pleased to work again with my colleague from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), to introduce this resolution to highlight this issue. Again, as I said, for the longest time in the thirties and forties, the world looked the other way.

Just go to the Holocaust Museum and see many times people were crying out

and the word was coming out of Germany and yet people looked the other way.

So I strongly urge support of this and I hope when it's voted on, if there is a roll call vote, it will be a unanimous vote.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. I rise today in support of this resolution to ensure that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort and security and congratulate Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ on its introduction.

An estimated 127,000 Holocaust survivors live in the United States today, including over 3,500 in the Chicago area, many in my congressional district. The Village of Skokie is home to one of the largest concentrations of Holocaust survivors in the country, and they inspired the building of the world-class Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie.

Holocaust survivors are five times more likely to be living below the poverty level than other older Americans, and over half fall beneath 200 percent of the Federal poverty threshold. These men and women have survived the worst of human abuses and many have special needs as they age. It is critical that we uphold the dignity of Holocaust survivors and ensure their well-being in their remaining years.

I would like to applaud the efforts of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago and other such organization that are working tirelessly to honor and assist Holocaust survivors in our community. We must all do more to ensure that Holocaust survivors can spend their remaining years living in comfort, dignity and security.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY).

Mr. QUIGLEY. I rise today to support this resolution and thank its sponsor, the gentlewoman from Florida, and call for its quick passage.

This important resolution highlights the often forgotten special needs of the few remaining Holocaust survivors. It also calls for the assurances that their final years will be comfortable and dignified.

Over 100,000 Holocaust survivors live in the U.S. today with 3,500 of those living in my city, Chicago. Three-quarters of those are in their eighties and nineties. The majority live alone and more than half live below the poverty line. As these individuals who survived torture, starvation and unspeakable terrors age, they deserve to do so in their own homes rather than in institutional settings.

After all they have endured and overcome, these spirited survivors of the

Holocaust deserve access to social service programs sensitive to their unique needs. This resolution will ensure they spend their last years with the same dignity with which they lived.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

Mr. ENGEL. I thank my fellow New Yorker for yielding.

I rise to support this legislation, this resolution. Everyone has spoken very eloquently, and I concur with everything that has been said. When I was looking at the resolution and the reasons for supporting it, I was absolutely shocked to see that there were still 127,000 Holocaust survivors left in the United States. I would have thought it was much, much less. And, of course, as people are saying many of them are in their eighties and nineties and deserve a little added help.

This great country has been a refuge for so many people throughout the years of this great republic and certainly the Holocaust survivors that came here after the Holocaust have been treated with dignity, have moved into American society. Their children and grandchildren have achieved great heights. But, unfortunately, too many of them today still live alone, are in their eighties and nineties, and need our help.

So I rise to support this resolution. I think this is the most noble thing that we can do. It's a great testimony to our great Nation, and I urge all my colleagues to support it.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I want to associate my last remarks with the gentleman from New York and the remarks that have been made.

I think one of the greatest blights in world history is the history of the Holocaust. The world stood by and watched the murder of millions of innocent men, women and children. We just a moment ago spoke about child advocacy, and look at the families that were dislodged, displaced. It's one of the most horrific events in world history, I believe, and should never, ever, be allowed to be repeated on this Earth.

So I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote "yes" on this resolution. It's a privilege to be here and be on the House floor to speak on behalf of that.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, the Holocaust was one of the most unspeakable tragedies in history. The amount pain and suffering of those individuals who endured the terror of the Nazi regime can never be quantified.

House Concurrent Resolution 323 is an important resolution that calls on our Nation to ensure that Holocaust

survivors are afforded appropriate resources in order to live their remaining years with dignity.

I am thankful that we live in a country that continues to cherish individual freedoms and maintains an unbreakable bond with Israel. It's imperative that our Nation teach lessons from the past, be a force for tolerance, and build upon shared democratic values and desire for security and stability.

With this in mind, I was proud to introduce H.R. 6363, the Supporting Law Enforcement through Lessons of the Holocaust Act earlier this Congress.

This legislation creates a new 4-year grant at the Department of Justice, our State and local law enforcement agencies, to carry out the programs that will teach these officers about the implications of the Holocaust for modern day law enforcement professionals.

Stories of personal struggle from the Holocaust live on through our historic records, families, friends and survivors of that horrific time. Our Nation owes it to the survivors to ensure their security and safety with utmost priority.

With that, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KLEIN).

□ 1800

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. I thank the lady.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Con. Res. 323, a resolution that calls attention to the thousands of Holocaust survivors who are living below the poverty line. We know in Florida we have a tremendous number of people that have come from that background. They deserve to live their lives in dignity. Holocaust survivors have endured torturous and unimaginable nightmares. All the more so they should be assured a life of comfort and security. It is truly tragic that Holocaust survivors are five times more likely to live below the poverty line than other older Americans.

We are coming together as Members today to send a clear message that we must all help lift Holocaust survivors out of poverty. This is a community obligation because we are human, and we must not allow suffering like this to reach those who have already suffered so much.

I would like to thank my friend, Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, the chief sponsor of this legislation. South Florida is truly lucky to have you. I would also like to commend the many good organizations in Florida and around the country that provide stellar social services to Holocaust survivors. They understand the unique needs of the survivor population and the urgent imperative to solve this crisis.

I call on my colleagues to swiftly pass this important resolution so that we may tell Holocaust survivors, you are not alone.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise as an original sponsor of H. Con. Res. 323, a bipar-

tisan resolution conceived with the purpose of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years.

During the Holocaust, an estimated 6,000,000 Jews and other targeted groups were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators. Approximately 96,000 Holocaust survivors were admitted to the United States immediately after the war. Another 100,000 Holocaust survivors were admitted after 1952. Today, approximately 127,000 Holocaust survivors live in the United States.

The majority of Holocaust survivors are at least 65 years old and approximately two-thirds of them are elderly women. Many of them face the risk of isolation and financial insecurity.

Holocaust survivors are 5 times more likely to be living below the poverty line than other older people living in the United States. They are more reliant on social service programs and most of them live alone. Living alone puts these survivors at increased risk of institutionalization.

While institutionalized settings are beneficial for some older people, institutionalization has a disproportionate adverse effect on Holocaust survivors by reintroducing sights, sounds, and routines that are reminiscent of their experiences during the Holocaust.

This bill encourages the Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Administration on Aging, to provide Holocaust survivors with needed social services through existing programs. The bill also urges the Administration to expeditiously develop and implement programs that ensure Holocaust survivors are able to live their remaining years in place in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is a nation that values freedom, liberty, and justice. As such, we are morally obligated to acknowledge the plight and encourage the dignity of our citizens, such as survivors of the Holocaust, who have suffered and who are in need.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in proud support of H. Con. Res. 323, a resolution supporting the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years. Following the tragic and unforgivable circumstances of their youth, these survivors came to the United States seeking a better life. They found a new home here in America, and it is our duty to provide for their well-being as best we can.

Over 127,000 Holocaust survivors live in the United States, about three-fourths of whom are in their 80s and 90s, and a majority of whom live alone. Sadly, more than half of these survivors fall beneath the 200-percent threshold for the federal poverty line, meaning they earn less than \$21,660 a year. In fact, Holocaust survivors are five times more likely to be living below the poverty line than other older Americans. My constituents in South Florida are not immune from this reality, and they need our support.

Holocaust survivors have special needs that would greatly benefit from access to social

service programs that would enable them to age in place in their current residences, with access to transportation and other services to ensure their health and well-being. This legislation encourages the Department of Health and Human Services and the Administration on Aging to expeditiously develop and implement programs that ensure Holocaust survivors have access to the care they need and deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand with so many of my colleagues on this important resolution, and I applaud the efforts of the many nonprofit organizations and agencies which work tirelessly to honor and assist Holocaust survivors throughout the United States. Freedom and liberty, justice and human rights—these are the values represented by the survivors of the Holocaust. We have a moral obligation to acknowledge their plight and uphold their dignity to ensure their well-being in their remaining years.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this worthy legislation.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 323, which supports efforts in ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live in comfort and dignity. I am proud to co-sponsor H. Con. Res. 323 and I thank my colleague, Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for introducing this resolution.

The Nazis systematically exterminated over six million Jewish people and killed between 11 and 17 million people overall. They established concentration camps, including the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau, Treblinka, Belzec, and Sobibor where they worked people to death and systematically exterminated them.

There are approximately 127,000 Holocaust survivors currently living in the United States. These survivors live everyday with the scars from this tragedy. They were forced to live in concentration, labor, or death camps where they were tortured by Nazi soldiers. Those individuals “lucky enough” to escape the labor camps, were forced to flee their countries leaving their families, homes, and possessions behind.

All of the Holocaust survivors are at least 65 years old with the majority being over 75. These individuals are five times more likely to be living in poverty than other Americans their age. More than two-thirds live alone.

Non-profit organizations provide many essential services to Holocaust survivors. These organizations often are underappreciated for all of the great work that they do. I am pleased that this resolution also recognizes the efforts of these organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 323. We must work to ensure that all Holocaust survivors are able to live out their remaining years in comfort and dignity.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and to thank my colleague from Florida for her leadership on this resolution supporting the survivors of the Holocaust.

It has been 65 years since the horrors of the Holocaust came to a close, leaving in its wake six million dead Jews as well as millions of displaced persons, orphans and widows, some of the most vulnerable and victimized

people the world has ever known. Impoverished and starving, many of them arrived at our shores with little besides the clothing on their backs and their resolute determination to rebuild their lives. They started families, built businesses, synagogues and community centers and became not only contributing members of our society, but even national leaders. We all remember and miss our good friend Tom Lantos, whose dedication to human rights was so unparalleled that Congress named our Human Rights Commission in his memory.

These survivors are not only models of resilience, but are a living reminder of the horrors that evil people, if given the chance, will visit upon the defenseless. Every year we lose more and more of these heroes, who by their mere existence remind us that it is our collective responsibility to prevent genocide from ever occurring again. With Israel under threat from all sides, this message is needed more than ever before.

Sixty-five years after the Holocaust, the remaining survivors are once again entering a vulnerable time in their lives. They are growing older and relying more on government and communal services. Now is not the time to turn our backs on these survivors, whose legacy and leadership is an inspiration to us all. We must heed the call of the Old Testament Psalm: Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone.

I urge support for this resolution.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 323, and I thank Representatives WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and WOLF for introducing this important measure. I have long advocated for providing resources to help our senior citizens age in their own homes with dignity, comfort, and security. That is why I worked hard to create and fund the Community Innovations for Aging in Place program at the Department of Health and Human Services. This initiative assists millions of older adults throughout the country get the services they need to live at home.

H. Con. Res. 323 brings attention to a special population of older Americans to whom aging in place is especially important. All of the approximately 127,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States are at least 65 years old, and they are five times more likely than other older Americans to live below the poverty line. These individuals often have experienced unimaginable violence, torture, and systematic extermination in concentration camps. For them, the prospect of living in an institutional setting may be particularly frightening. We have a moral obligation to help the remaining Holocaust survivors live out their lives safely and comfortably in their own homes and local communities. I urge support for this resolution, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that Holocaust survivors have the social services they need and deserve.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, there are not many Holocaust survivors left in the world. Each year as the number dwindles, we worry about how people will remember the evils of the Holocaust when there are no longer eyewitnesses to give their personal accounts. We promote remembrance and teach tolerance. We fight Holocaust deniers and those who

grotesquely glorify the Holocaust and denigrate the memory of the six million.

But while we focus intently on ensuring awareness of the tragedy of the past we are losing sight of a tragedy in our midst: Many Holocaust survivors are living their final days in poverty.

According to the Jewish Federations of North America, more than half of the 127,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States fall beneath 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold, meaning they live on less than \$21,660 per year. Holocaust survivors are five times more likely to be living below the poverty line than the general senior population.

In Los Angeles, one in six survivors requires community assistance. In the past year, the LA Jewish Federation has seen the number of survivors needing emergency assistance for basic housing, food, medical, dental and transportation needs rise by 20 percent.

The vast majority of these survivors are now in their 80's and 90's and two-thirds of them live alone. Very few have any family support network, which is not surprising considering that so few had family that survived the war. As a result, many are forced into institutional care because they cannot afford to receive care in their homes.

While institutionalized care settings are beneficial for many older adults, Holocaust survivors react poorly and can be prone to emotional suffering and physical deterioration from sights, sounds and routines that may resurrect Holocaust experiences. Research indicates that survivors, in particular, benefit tremendously from access to social service programs that allow them to age in place in their current residences. It is a solution that is both cost-effective and humane.

As one of the original sponsors of the U.S. Administration on Aging grant program now known as the Community Innovations In Aging In Place, I am hopeful that we can find the resources to help these survivors in their time of need.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 323 and I look forward to working with them to achieve its goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 323.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SUPPORTING AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1690) supporting the observance of American Diabetes Month, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1690

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are nearly 24,000,000 Americans with diabetes and 57,000,000 with prediabetes;

Whereas diabetes is a serious chronic condition that affects people of every age, race and ethnicity, and income level;

Whereas the CDC reports that Hispanic-, African-, Asian-, and Native Americans are disproportionately affected by diabetes and suffer at rates higher than the general population;

Whereas, according to the CDC, every minute 3 people are diagnosed with diabetes, approximately 4,384 people each day;

Whereas, according to the CDC, approximately 1,600,000 new cases of diabetes were diagnosed last year in people 20 years or older;

Whereas a joint CDC and National Institutes of Health study found that 15,000 youth in the United States are diagnosed with type 1 diabetes annually and about 3,700 youth are diagnosed with type 2 diabetes annually;

Whereas, according to the CDC, between 1980 and 2007, diabetes prevalence in the United States increased by more than 300 percent;

Whereas the CDC reports that over 24 percent of diabetes is undiagnosed, down from 30 percent in 2005;

Whereas, according to the CDC National Diabetes Fact Sheet, over 10 percent of American adults and nearly a quarter (23.1 percent) of Americans age 60 and older have diabetes;

Whereas, according to the CDC, one in three Americans born in the year 2000 will develop diabetes in their lifetime; this statistic grows to nearly one in two for minority populations;

Whereas, according to the American Diabetes Association, in 2007, the total cost of diagnosed diabetes in the United States was \$174,000,000,000, and one in ten dollars spent on health care is attributed to diabetes and its complications;

Whereas, according to a Mathematica Policy study, total expenditures for Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes comprise 32.7 percent of the Medicare budget;

Whereas, according to the CDC, every day 230 people with diabetes undergo an amputation, 120 people enter end-stage kidney disease programs, and 55 people go blind from diabetes;

Whereas, according to the CDC, diabetes was the seventh leading cause of death in 2007, and contributed to the deaths of over 230,000 Americans in 2005;

Whereas there is not yet a cure for diabetes;

Whereas there are proven means to reduce the incidence of or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes;

Whereas people with diabetes live healthy, productive lives with the proper management and treatment; and

Whereas November is widely recognized as American Diabetes Month: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month, including encouraging Americans to fight diabetes through raising public awareness about stopping diabetes and increasing education about the disease;

(2) recognizes the importance of early detection of diabetes, awareness of the symptoms of diabetes, and awareness of the risk factors for diabetes, which include being over the age of 45, being a member of a specific racial and ethnic background, being overweight, having a low physical activity level, having high blood pressure, and having a family history of diabetes or a history of diabetes during pregnancy; and

(3) supports decreasing the prevalence of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes in the United States through increased research, treatment, and prevention.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OWENS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1690. Earlier this year, the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee held a hearing on our collective battle against diabetes, the progress we have made so far and the challenges that remain.

Over 30 years ago, Congress passed the National Diabetes Research and Education Act, the first significant legislation directed at coordinating and expanding the government's research and prevention efforts related to diabetes. While we have made tremendous progress in understanding and treating diabetes, it remains a significant public health epidemic.

It's staggering to realize that over 23 million Americans have some form of diabetes today and the number is growing. Even more troubling is that 57 million Americans are at serious risk for developing type 2 diabetes, including women with gestational diabetes.

Until recently, kids were rarely diagnosed with anything but type 1 diabetes. But the increasing rate of childhood obesity is changing the face of diabetes, and certainly not for the better. Furthermore, diabetes is the leading cause of heart disease, stroke, blindness, and kidney failure. As is often the case, diabetes disproportionately affects racial and ethnic minorities. American Indians have the highest prevalence of diabetes nationwide,

and Hispanics and African Americans are close behind.

Moreover, there is clear economic cost. It has been estimated that over \$220 billion in medical expenses in 2007 can be attributed to diabetes. There are serious problems which need aggressive and innovative action. The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases located at NIH and the Centers for Disease Control are both doing landmark research and surveillance work related to diabetes and have translated this into more effective prevention and treatment strategies, including the development of key therapies and technologies.

I want to commend the sponsor of this legislation, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) not only for the work on this bill but for all the work on the Energy and Commerce Committee and also as the cochair of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus. I know I'm a member of it. It has well over 200 members, and it does a lot to raise awareness and increase education about the disease.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. TERRY. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Diabetes Caucus and a former vice chair and member of a regional board that included Nebraska for the American Diabetes Association before I came to the United States Congress, I rise in support of House Resolution 1690 supporting the observance of American Diabetes Month.

Diabetes touches nearly every life in this country. There are an estimated 24 million Americans today afflicted with diabetes, and that number is projected to double in the next 25 years. Diabetes is a group of diseases characterized by high blood glucose. It results when the body does not produce sufficient insulin or is unable to process insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugars, starches, and other food into needed energy for daily life.

Type 1 diabetes results from the body's failure to produce insulin, which allows glucose to enter and fuel the cells of the body. The most common form of type 1 diabetes is immune mediated diabetes, in which the body's immune system attacks and destroys the insulin-producing cells of the pancreas.

The common name for type 1 diabetes is juvenile diabetes. Even though juvenile diabetes is typically diagnosed during childhood or adolescence, it is a disease individuals must manage their entire lives. Type 2 diabetes, sometimes known as adult onset diabetes, results from the body's inability to make enough or properly use insulin. Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes, and its prevalence is