

Public Law 103-15
103d Congress

Joint Resolution

Concerning the dedication of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Apr. 12, 1993
[H.J. Res. 156]

Whereas, in 1980, the Congress of the United States established the United States Holocaust Memorial Council (Public Law 96-388, dated October 7, 1980) by unanimous vote and mandated it with the creation of a permanent living memorial museum to the victims of the Holocaust;

Whereas, through the great generosity and unstinting efforts of thousands of individuals from all walks of life, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has now been built on Federal land with private contributions and will be officially dedicated on April 22, 1993;

Whereas, this institution will underscore the ideals of human rights and individual liberty this Nation was founded upon, as expressed by President George Washington in 1790, when he declared that the United States had created "a government which to bigotry gives no sanction, to persecution no assistance";

Whereas, four administrations and every Congress since 1980, and especially Members of Congress and individuals who have served on the Council and officials of the United States Departments of State, the Interior, and Education, have joined with the American public in bringing this institution to life; and

Whereas, this museum signifies national dedication to remembering the Holocaust, and will serve as the Nation's leading educational facility to teach current and future generations of Americans about this tragic period of human history and its implications for our lives and the choices we make as individuals and societies against crimes based on hate and prejudice regarding race, religion, and sexual preference: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the One Hundred Third Congress officially commemorates the opening and recognizes the historic importance of this unique institution as it takes its place among the other great memorials and museums in our Nation's Capital that honor the democratic precepts this Nation is based upon; and be it further

Resolved, That Congress encourages all citizens of the United States, and all who come to Washington, District of Columbia, to visit the Museum and avail themselves of the opportunities presented within its walls to learn about the past and to contemplate the moral responsibilities of citizenship; and be it further

Resolved, That, in remembrance of those who perished in the Holocaust; in tribute to the survivors who came to the United States to build a new life, and who, with their families, have

contributed so much to the fabric of our diverse society; in recognition of heroic American soldiers who liberated prisoners of Nazi camps; in recognition of the anonymous bravery of rescuers from many lands who had the courage to care and placed their own lives in peril to help others in need; and in hope that Americans will learn from this museum the need to remain vigilant against bigotry and oppression; we welcome the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to the center of our American heritage and state now, in recognition of the Museum's motto, that for the dead and the living and those yet to be born, we do bear witness.

Approved April 12, 1993.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.J. Res. 156 (S.J. Res. 76):

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 139 (1993):

Apr. 1, considered and passed House.

Apr. 2, S.J. Res. 76 and H.J. Res. 156 considered and passed Senate.