FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Concurrent Resolution No. 28

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CHIPMAN.

2141H.01I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

Relating to Victims of Communism Memorial Day.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

WHEREAS, the year 2017 marked 100 years since the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, resulting in the world's first communist regime, under Vladimir Lenin, and leading to decades of oppression and violence under communist regimes throughout the world; and

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WHEREAS, based on the philosophy of Karl Marx, communism has proven incompatible with the ideals of liberty, prosperity, and dignity of human life and has given rise to such infamous totalitarian dictators as Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh, Pol Pot, Nicolae Ceausescu, the Castro brothers, and the Kim Dynasty; and

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WHEREAS, President Donald Trump declared November 7, 2017, a National Day for the Victims of Communism, condemning communism as a political philosophy "incompatible with liberty, prosperity, and the dignity of human life"; and

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WHEREAS, the bipartisan U.S. Congressional Caucus for the Victims of Communism stated publicly in 2018 that "Marx's defenders often say he cannot be held accountable for what communist regimes did long after his life and death; but Marxist dictators who massacred their own people were applying communist ideology to political practice"; and

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WHEREAS, communist regimes worldwide have killed more than 100 million people and subjected countless others to the worst and widest-spread human rights abuses known to history, with victims representing many different ethnicities, creeds, and backgrounds; and

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WHEREAS, through false promises of equality and liberation, communist regimes have, as a matter of government policy, robbed their own citizens of the rights of freedom of religion,

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25	freedom of speech, and freedom of association through coercion, brutality, and fear; and
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27	WHEREAS, many victims of communism were persecuted as political prisoners for
28	speaking out against these regimes, and others were killed in genocidal state-sponsored purges;
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31	WHEREAS, in addition to violating basic human rights, communist regimes have
32	suppressed freedom of conscience, cultural life, and self-determination movements in more than
33	40 nations:
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35	NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the House of
36	Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
37	concurring therein, hereby designate November 7 of each year as Victims of Communism
38	Memorial Day; and
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40	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
41	Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
42	Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation; and
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44	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his
45	approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.