

BY: Senator HOYLMAN

COMMEMORATING International Holocaust Remembrance
Day on January 27, 2017

WHEREAS, From 1933 to 1945, 5.8 million Jews were murdered in the Nazi Holocaust as a part of a systematic program of genocide, and millions of other people also perished as victims of Nazism; and

WHEREAS, Jews who fell under German control in Eastern and Central Europe were quickly stripped of their rights and property; and

WHEREAS, The Jews who perished at Nazi hands comprised two-thirds of all European Jewry, and in countries such as Poland, which before the second World War included parts of the Ukraine and Belarus, the Jewish death toll surpassed 90 percent; and

WHEREAS, The year 2017 marks the 84th Anniversary of the beginning of the genocide of European Jews, the bleakest, most murderous moment in history; and

WHEREAS, The Holocaust represents the darkest period in the civilization of mankind and must always be remembered in order to prevent its reoccurrence anywhere else in the world; and

WHEREAS, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which is observed on January 27th each year, is a day set aside for remembering the millions of victims of the Holocaust; this date was designated by the United Nations General Assembly on November 1, 2005, as it marks the date when Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp, was liberated by Soviet Troops in 1945; and

WHEREAS, Remembrance ceremonies are held throughout the United States and around the world to remember the tragedy of the Holocaust on January 27th, including at Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., and in the halls of the United Nations in New York City; and

WHEREAS, It is critically important to remember the events of the Holocaust to ensure that the events shall "never again" happen, as has been the rallying cry among the Jewish people; and

WHEREAS, In times of war and chaos, with the threat of genocide and ethnic cleansing present in many war-torn regions of the world, the events of the Holocaust continue to be relevant and important to remember so that suffering on this scale truly never does happen again; and

WHEREAS, Knowing that the events and root causes of the Holocaust must not be forgotten and that, particularly as survivors diminish in number, links must be forged to educate future generations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day.