

## RESOLUTION

### FOR THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945; and

WHEREAS, Jews were the primary victims—six million were murdered; Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles also were targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons; and

WHEREAS, millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Michigan should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress established the Days of Remembrance as our nation's annual commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to those victims; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with its Congressional mandate, the Museum is responsible for leading the nation in commemorating the Days of Remembrance, and for encouraging and sponsoring appropriate observances throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Museum has designated *Never Again: What You Do Matters* as the theme for the 2009 observance; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Michigan should actively rededicate themselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the State of Michigan to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980) the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be April 19 – 26, 2009, including the Day of Remembrance known as *Yom Hashoah*, April 21, 2009; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Michigan State Board of Education hereby proclaims the week of April 19 - 26, 2009, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Michigan State Board of Education urges that the citizens of Michigan strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through life-long learning and remembrance.

Adopted March 17, 2009