

1 HJR142  
2 218260-1  
3 By Representatives Faulkner, Garrett, Gaston and Carns  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 09-MAR-22

RECOGNIZING THE ALABAMA YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION ON  
APRIL 26, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Alabama Holocaust Commission will host  
a 2022 State Yom HaShoah Commemoration on April 26, 2022, to  
observe the passage of Yom HaShoah, which this year falls  
between the evenings of April 27 and 28; the Alabama Holocaust  
Commission is overjoyed to announce that this year's Yom  
HaShoah Commemoration will be a hybrid virtual-physical event,  
with physical festivities at the Alabama Department of  
Archives and History, accompanied by a digital streaming  
celebration; and

WHEREAS, Yom HaShoah was instituted by Israel in  
1951 as a day of commemoration for the six million Jews who  
perished in the Holocaust, the largest manifestation of hate  
and intolerance in modern history; and

WHEREAS, there is no institutionalized ritual for  
Yom HaShoah; commemorations may include synagogue services,  
communal vigils, and educational programs; the lighting of

1 memorial candles and reciting of prayers for the departed are  
2 generally featured in the solemn ceremony; and

3 WHEREAS, this year's ceremony will include a  
4 broadcast of various speakers, including government officials,  
5 figures from the Alabama Jewish community, and stories of  
6 Holocaust survivors and liberators; and

7 WHEREAS, at this year's ceremony, the presence of  
8 Holocaust survivor Max Herzel will be dearly missed, as he  
9 departed this earth on October 29, 2021, at the age of 91,  
10 after decades of sharing his story and spreading awareness of  
11 the horrors he and millions of others endured; the ceremony  
12 will also commemorate and honor other living and recently  
13 departed Holocaust survivors; and

14 WHEREAS, the Alabama Holocaust Commission was  
15 established by legislation in 1999 to foster understanding and  
16 promote education about the Holocaust; our good friends and  
17 colleagues, Representatives David Faulkner and Danny Garrett  
18 and Senator Jabo Waggoner, all of Jefferson County, are active  
19 members of this commission; and

20 WHEREAS, among the duties of the Alabama Holocaust  
21 Commission is the responsibility to enhance public awareness  
22 of the consequences and significance of the Holocaust; the  
23 enabling act of the commission states that it is the policy of  
24 the State of Alabama that Holocaust education is the proper  
25 concern of all peoples; and

26 WHEREAS, events such as the 2022 Yom HaShoah  
27 Commemoration are consistent with the mission of the Alabama

1 Holocaust Commission providing Holocaust education and  
2 focusing on citizen involvement in this commemoration; now  
3 therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
5 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That on this momentous occasion of  
6 the Yom HaShoah Commemoration sponsored by the Alabama  
7 Holocaust Commission on April 26, 2022, we recognize and honor  
8 the memory of the lives lost in the Holocaust and honor those  
9 who survived to share their stories.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That events such as this  
11 year's Yom HaShoah Commemoration are vital to enhancing public  
12 awareness of the consequences and significance of the  
13 Holocaust, and for instilling in our fellow people a sense of  
14 understanding of the true cost of hate and intolerance; by  
15 growing and learning from the past and extending grace and  
16 mercy, we achieve true victory over the evils of this world.