STATE OF ALASKA

Executive Proclamation
by
Governor Sean Parnell

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

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

WHEREAS, millions more, including 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, Alaskans 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 citizens of the State of Alaska 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 Sunday, May 1, through Sunday, May 8, 2011, including the Day of Remembrance known as *Yom Hashoah*, May 1, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim May 1-8, 2011 as:

Days of Remembrance

in Alaska, in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, rescuers, and liberators, and ask that all Alaskans work to promote human dignity and to overcome hatred whenever and wherever it occurs.

Dated: April 20, 2011

Sean Parnell, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.