State of Maine

Proclamation

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, Jews were the primary victims--six million were murdered; but Roma and Sinti (Gypsies), the handicapped, and Poles were also 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, all people in the State of Maine should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the State of Maine should also never forget the sacrifices and bravery of the liberators of the concentration camps; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PAUL R. LEPAGE, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of May 1 - 8, 2011 as

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

throughout the State of Maine in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of the State of Maine, should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this tenth day of March in the Year of our Lord Two Thousand Eleven.

Paul R. LePage

Paul R. LePage
Governor

Charles E. Summers, Jr.
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY