STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of more than six million Jews and millions of others including Gypsies, the handicapped, Poles, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents under the Nazi tyranny that brutalized Europe between 1932 and 1945; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980) the United States Holocaust Memorial Council annually designates the Days of Remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust, not for memory's sake alone, but to affirm that education and dialogue are the cornerstone of a universal commitment, in the name of our common humanity, to the struggle against hatred and bigotry wherever they exist; and

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

WHEREAS, New Jersey residents are encouraged to actively rededicate ourselves to principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

WHEREAS, for more than two decades, the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education has provided a national model for programs on the Holocaust and genocide as a critical and dynamic lesson that we must always continue to speak out and fight against hatred, persecution and tyranny everywhere in the world; and

WHEREAS, this year, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council has designated the Days of Remembrance as Sunday, April 15 through Sunday, April 22, 2012, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, which this year falls on April 19; and

WHEREAS, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has chosen "Choosing to Act: Stories of Rescue" as the theme for this year's observance, to call attention to the heroic acts of those who harbored Jews and other people marked for imprisonment and/or execution by Nazi agents during the Holocaust;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

APRIL 15 THROUGH APRIL 22, 2012
AS
DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

in New Jersey in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and do commend the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the survivors, rescuers and liberators whose extraordinary stories embody the conscience of the world and teach us to overcome intolerance and indifference through education, remembrance and action.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this ninth day of April in the year two thousand twelve, the two hundred thirty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR