

By Senator Berman

26-00008A-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Holocaust Remembrance Day; creating
3 s. 683.196, F.S.; requiring the Governor to annually
4 proclaim a specified day as "Holocaust Remembrance
5 Day"; requiring that "Holocaust Remembrance Day" be
6 observed in this state's public schools and be
7 observed by public exercise as the Governor may
8 designate; providing construction; requiring specified
9 instruction; providing an effective date.

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11 WHEREAS, more than 77 years have passed since the Holocaust
12 ended, yet anti-Semitism and unfounded hatred of Jews continues
13 to spread throughout the world, and

14 WHEREAS, millions of Jews, Soviet civilians, and persons
15 with disabilities were murdered during the Holocaust, as well as
16 people targeted for their ethnicity, religion, political
17 beliefs, and sexual orientation, and

18 WHEREAS, Kristallnacht, widely recognized as a
19 precipitating event that led to the Holocaust, was a series of
20 pogroms unleashed by Nazi leaders against the Jewish population
21 in Germany and newly incorporated territories which caused the
22 destruction of Jewish-owned businesses, synagogues, schools, and
23 homes, and

24 WHEREAS, the tragedy of the Holocaust and the ongoing
25 effects of anti-Semitism still impact Jewish communities in this
26 state, NOW, THEREFORE,

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28 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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30 Section 1. Section 683.196, Florida Statutes, is created to
31 read:

32 683.196 Holocaust Remembrance Day.-

33 (1) In honor of the millions of victims killed in the
34 Holocaust, the Governor shall annually proclaim the first
35 weekday in "Holocaust Education Week" under s. 1003.42(2)(g)2.
36 to be "Holocaust Remembrance Day," which must be suitably
37 observed in the public schools of this state and by public
38 exercise at the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor may
39 designate.

40 (2) If the first weekday of "Holocaust Education Week"
41 falls on a day that is not a school day, "Holocaust Remembrance
42 Day" must be observed in the public schools on the following
43 school day or as otherwise designated by the district school
44 board having jurisdiction.

45 (3) Instruction on the harmful impacts of the Holocaust and
46 anti-Semitism and the positive impacts of the Jewish community
47 on humanity must be provided as part of the public school
48 instruction on "Holocaust Remembrance Day."

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.