

## Senate Concurrent Resolution 3

Sponsored by Senators MONNES ANDERSON, KRUSE; Senators BEYER, BOQUIST, GELSER, GIROD, HANSELL, KNOPP, MONROE, ROBLAN, STEINER HAYWARD, Representatives GREENLICK, MALSTROM, PILUSO (at the request of Ukrainian-American Cultural Association of Oregon, former Senator Chris Edwards) (Presession filed.)

### SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Designates November 25, 2017, as Holodomor Remembrance Day.

### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas the Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933, known as Holodomor, was a man-made famine that  
3 caused the deaths of 7 million to 10 million innocent men, women and children in Ukraine, resulting  
4 in the annihilation of an estimated 25 percent of the rural population of that country, at the time  
5 one of the most productive agricultural areas of the Soviet Union; and

6       Whereas the man-made famine also resulted in the deaths of an estimated one million to two  
7 million people in regions outside Ukraine, mostly in the largely ethnically Ukrainian North  
8 Caucasus territory; and

9       Whereas these people were starved to death by forced agricultural collectivization and grain  
10 seizures by the Soviet Union; and

11       Whereas Western observers and scholars who accurately reported on the existence of the famine  
12 as it was occurring were subjected to disparagement and criticism; and

13       Whereas the Soviet Union and many scholars in the West denied the existence of the famine  
14 until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 made access to Soviet Union archives, and thereby  
15 the documentation of the premeditated nature of the famine and its harsh enforcement, possible; and

16       Whereas the final report, delivered to Congress on April 22, 1988, of the United States Com-  
17 mission on the Ukraine Famine concluded that the victims "starved to death in a man-made  
18 famine"; and

19       Whereas although the famine resulted in one of the largest losses of human life in the 20th  
20 century, its occurrence remains insufficiently known in the United States and throughout the world;  
21 and

22       Whereas the official recognition of the famine by the government of Ukraine, including by the  
23 country's parliament, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, represents a significant step in the reestab-  
24 lishment of Ukraine's national identity and the advancement of efforts to establish a democratic and  
25 free Ukraine that is fully integrated into the Western community of nations; and

26       Whereas whether it was political oppression or religious persecution that caused Ukrainian  
27 immigrants to pursue better lives for themselves and their families, their desire to live in peace and  
28 enjoy liberty was so strong that it drew generations of Ukrainian immigrants to Oregon and else-  
29 where in the United States in an effort to rebuild their lives; and

30       Whereas Oregon is now home to tens of thousands of Ukrainian-Americans, and Ukrainians

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 living in Oregon have enriched our state through their leadership and contributions in agriculture,  
2 business, academia, government and the arts; and

3       Whereas since 2006, Ukraine has marked the fourth Saturday of November as an annual day of  
4 commemoration for the victims of the famine; and

5       Whereas in August 2015, a memorial to the millions who perished in the Holodomor was erected  
6 in Washington, D.C., and the dedication ceremony took place in November of the same year; now,  
7 therefore,

8 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

9       That the millions of victims of the man-made Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933, known as  
10 Holodomor, should be solemnly remembered and honored; and be it further

11       Resolved, That we, the members of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly, designate Saturday,  
12 November 25, 2017, as Holodomor Remembrance Day in Oregon and encourage individuals, educa-  
13 tors, businesses, groups, organizations and public institutions to observe Holodomor Remembrance  
14 Day with appropriate activities designed to honor the victims and educate Oregonians about this  
15 tragedy.

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