

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 790

Expressing support for designation of August 23 as Black Ribbon Day to recognize the victims of Soviet Communist and Nazi regimes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2012

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California (for himself and Mr. SHIMKUS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for designation of August 23 as Black Ribbon Day to recognize the victims of Soviet Communist and Nazi regimes.

Whereas the United States Government has actively advocated for and continues to support the principles by the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations General Assembly resolution 260 (III) of December 9, 1948;

Whereas Captive Nations Week, signed into law (Public Law 86–90) by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1959, raised public awareness of the oppression of nations under the control of Communist and other nondemocratic governments;

Whereas the European Parliament resolution on European conscience and totalitarianism of April 2, 2009, and the Black Ribbon Day resolution adopted by the Parliament of Canada of November 30, 2009, establish a day of remembrance for victims of Communist and Nazi regimes to remember and commemorate their victims;

Whereas August 23 would be an appropriate date to designate as Black Ribbon Day to remember and never forget the terror millions of citizens in Central and Eastern Europe experienced for more than 40 years by ruthless military, economic, and political repression of the people through arbitrary executions, mass arrests, deportations, the suppression of free speech, confiscation of private property, and the destruction of cultural and moral identity and civil society, all of which deprived the vast majority of the peoples of Central and Eastern Europe of their basic human rights and dignity, separating them from the democratic world by means of the Iron Curtain and the Berlin Wall; and

Whereas the memories of Europe's tragic past cannot be forgotten in order to honor the victims, condemn the perpetrators, and lay the foundation for reconciliation based on truth and remembrance: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives supports
- 2 the designation of Black Ribbon Day to recognize the vic-
- 3 tims of Soviet Communist and Nazi regimes.

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