

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 18, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 14, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 11, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 45

Introduced by Assembly Member Grove

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chávez, Cooley, Dahle, Dodd, Beth Gaines, Gatto, Lackey, Mathis, Olsen, Patterson, Steinorth, Wagner, Waldron, and Wilk Wilk, Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Arambula, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brough, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chang, Chau, Chiu, Chu, Cooper, Dababneh, Daly, Eggman, Frazier, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Hadley, Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Santiago, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Weber, Williams, and Wood)

(Coauthors: Senators Bates and Leno)

March 11, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 45—Relative to the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 45, as amended, Grove. Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933.

This measure would remember and honor the millions of victims of the man-made Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as “Holodomor.”

and their descendants who are living throughout California. The measure would also designate November 26, 2016, as Holodomor Remembrance Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as
2 “Holodomor,” was a man-made famine that caused the deaths of
3 at least five million innocent men, women, and children in Ukraine,
4 resulting in an annihilation of an estimated 25 percent of the rural
5 population of that country, one of the most productive agricultural
6 areas of the Soviet Union; and

7 WHEREAS, This man-made famine also resulted in the deaths
8 of an estimated one to two million people in regions outside
9 Ukraine, mostly in the largely ethnic Ukrainian North Caucasus
10 territory; and

11 WHEREAS, These millions of people were starved to death by
12 forced agricultural collectivization and grain seizures by the Soviet
13 Union; and

14 WHEREAS, Western observers and scholars who accurately
15 reported on the existence of the famine as it was occurring were
16 subjected to disparagement and criticism for their reporting; and

17 WHEREAS, The Soviet Union and many scholars in the West
18 denied the existence of the famine until the collapse of the Soviet
19 Union in 1991 when Soviet Union archives became accessible,
20 thereby making the documentation of the premeditated nature of
21 the famine and its harsh enforcement possible; and

22 WHEREAS, The final report of the U.S. Commission on the
23 Ukraine Famine, established on December 13, 1985, concluded
24 that the victims were “starved to death in a man-made famine”;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Although the famine was one of the greatest losses
27 of human life in the 20th century, its occurrence remains
28 insufficiently known in the United States and throughout the world;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, The official recognition of the famine by the
31 government of Ukraine and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
32 represents a significant step in the reestablishment of Ukraine’s
33 national identity and the advancement of efforts to establish a
34 democratic and free Ukraine that is fully integrated into the
35 Western community of nations; and

1 WHEREAS, Whether Ukrainian immigrants were fleeing
2 political oppression or religious persecution to pursue better lives
3 for themselves and their families, the desire to live in peace and
4 enjoy liberty was so valued that it drew generations of Ukrainian
5 immigrants to the United States and California in an effort to
6 rebuild their lives; and

7 WHEREAS, California is now home to the third largest
8 Ukrainian-American population in the United States, and
9 Ukrainians living in California have enriched our state through
10 their leadership and contributions in agriculture, business,
11 academia, government, and the arts; and

12 WHEREAS, In August 2015, a memorial to the millions who
13 perished in the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as
14 “Holodomor,” was erected in the United States capital, and the
15 dedication ceremony took place on November 7, 2015; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
18 *thereof concurring*, That the millions of victims of the man-made
19 Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as “Holodomor,” and
20 their descendants living throughout California should be solemnly
21 remembered and honored; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Legislature designates November 26, 2016,
23 as Holodomor Remembrance Day in California and encourages
24 individual citizens, educators, businesses, groups, organizations,
25 and public institutions to observe Holodomor Remembrance Day
26 with appropriate activities designed to honor the victims and
27 educate Californians about this tragedy; and be it further

28 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
29 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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