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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION**

**No. 287**

Session of  
1984

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INTRODUCED BY ITKIN, NOVEMBER 28, 1984

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ADOPTED, NOVEMBER 28, 1984

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A RESOLUTION

1 Proclaiming December 5 "Soviet Jewry Solidarity Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The flow of emigration of Soviet Jewry has ground to  
4 a halt under newly formed and more oppressive changes in Soviet  
5 policy; and

6 WHEREAS, The right to choose to leave is enshrined in the  
7 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the right to family  
8 reunification is recognized by the signatories to the Helsinki  
9 Accords, even though the Soviet Union continues to violate these  
10 principles on a variety of pretexts; and

11 WHEREAS, Jews remain the only recognized nationality in the  
12 U.S.S.R. deprived of their cultural and linguistic identity, and  
13 the exercise of the Jewish religion has been severely restricted  
14 in a manner which is excessive even by the rigorous standards of  
15 Soviet law; and

16 WHEREAS, Jews are threatened by a vicious and systematic  
17 Soviet propaganda assault thinly disguised as anti-Zionism; and

1       WHEREAS, Jews are subject to rank discrimination in higher  
2 education and employment; and

3       WHEREAS, The Soviet Union is a signatory to the Helsinki  
4 Accords, and a contracting party to the International Covenant  
5 on Civil and Political Rights and the UNESCO Convention Against  
6 Discrimination in Education, which obligates it to fulfill the  
7 cultural rights of minorities; and

8       WHEREAS, The Soviet constitution guarantees cultural and  
9 linguistic rights but these are not applied uniformly and  
10 consistently to Jews; and

11       WHEREAS, December 5 is the designated day of the National  
12 Council of Jewish Women to observe "Women's Plea for Soviet  
13 Jewry Day" in the United States; therefore be it

14       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
15 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania align itself with the cause of  
16 justice, compassion and humanity by proclaiming December 5,  
17 1984, "Soviet Jewry Solidarity Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it  
18 further

19       RESOLVED, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution  
20 be transmitted to the Soviet Communist Party Chairman Chernenko,  
21 the Soviet Ambassador, President Reagan and Secretary of State  
22 Shultz.