



H.Res. 1435– Recognizing the 70th anniversary of the 1938 occurrence of Kristallnacht, The Night of Broken Glass

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1435 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Paul Hodes (D-NH) on September 15, 2008. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1435 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 23, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1435 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Recognizes the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht, The Night of Broken Glass;
- Pays tribute to the over 6,000,000 Jewish people who were killed during the Holocaust; and
- Recommits the United States to continued vigilance against these kind of atrocities and urges the international community to fight against organized aggression directed at religious, ethnic, and other minority groups wherever it may occur.

BACKGROUND

November 9, 1938, is known as “Kristallnacht” or the Night of the Broken Glass. On this night hundreds of synagogues in Germany and Austria were burned and destroyed in an action sanctioned by the Nazi government. Kristallnacht marked the first large-scale operation mounted against Jewish citizens. “Kristallnacht” is a reference to the broken windows of Jewish shops which were ransacked.

91 Jews were murdered during Kristallnacht and over 25,000 individuals were arrested. Kristallnacht is widely acknowledged as a prelude to the Holocaust which occurred during the late 1930s and early 1940s. Over 6 million Jews were murdered by the German Nazi regime during the Holocaust, along with other persecuted groups such as Gypsies, disabled persons, and homosexuals.

STAFF CONTACT

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