



## H.Res. 1314– Remembering the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 and extending the deepest sympathies of the House of Representatives to the victims, survivors, and families of this tragedy, and for other purposes

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1314 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 Sander Levin (D-MI) on June 26, 2008. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1314 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 23, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.Res. 1314 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Solemnly remembers the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 and extends its deepest sympathies to the victims, survivors, and families of this tragedy;
- Condemns the systematic violations of human rights, including the freedom of self-determination and freedom of speech, of the Ukrainian people by the Soviet Government;
- Encourages dissemination of information regarding the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide in order to expand the world's knowledge of this man-made tragedy; and
- Supports the continuing efforts of Ukraine to work toward ensuring democratic principles, a free-market economy, and full respect for human rights, in order to enable Ukraine to achieve its potential as an important strategic partner of the United States in that region of the world.

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### BACKGROUND

In 1932 and 1933, about 10 million Ukrainians died due to famine at the hands of the Stalinist government of the Soviet Union. In an effort to destroy the emerging independence movement in Ukraine, the Soviet government confiscated grain harvests and starved the Ukrainian people through its forced collectivization policy. Joseph Stalin also sealed the borders of Ukraine to prevent food aid from entering the country and individuals from fleeing starvation.

In 1985, the United States Commission on the Ukraine Famine concluded that Stalin committed genocide against the Ukrainians from 1932-1933. On October 13, 2006, President Bush signed into law P.L. 109-340, which authorized the construction of a memorial in the District of Columbia to honor the victims of the famine.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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