

Washington State Legislature

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LEGAL SERVICES

March 12, 2004

Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation P.O. Box 8300 San Francisco, CA 94128-8300

Dear Whom It May Concern,

We wish to call to your attention the enclosed Joint Memorial, which was adopted unanimously by the Washington State Senate and House of Representatives. The Memorial calls for the prompt allocation of humanitarian funds, including undistributed assets from the Swiss banks litigation, to meet the basic needs of elderly Holocaust Survivors in fair proportion to their numbers worldwide based on accurate population data, with full and transparent accounting for the use of funds disbursed.

An official copy is being transmitted to Judge Edward Korman, United States District Court, Eastern District of New York.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Yours truly,

Representative Shay Schual-Berke 33rd Legislative District

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Washington State

Senator Adam Kline 37th Legislative District Washington State

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SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4028

58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

Passed by the House February 12, 2004

Yeas 93 Nays 0

presentatives

Passed by the Senate March 11, 2004 Yeas 49 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

CERTIFICATE

I, Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby that the attached certify SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4028 as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

Secretary of State State of Washington

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4028

Passed Legislature - 2004 Regular Session

State of Washington

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58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance (originally sponsored by Representatives Schual-Berke, Ruderman, Kagi, Dickerson, Kenney, McDermott, Darneille, Pettigrew, Miloscia, Haigh, Chase, Edwards, Morrell, Conway, Clibborn, Fromhold and O'Brien)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/04.

TO THE CHAIR OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF HOLOCAUST ERA 1 INSURANCE CLAIMS (ICHEIC), AND TO THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, AND TO THE 3 WASHINGTON STATE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER:

We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent and petition as follows:

WHEREAS, The Holocaust was a tragedy of proportions the world has never before witnessed; and

WHEREAS, More than sixty years have passed since the tragic events we call the Holocaust transpired in which Nazi Germany murdered six million Jews as a part of a systematic program of genocide known as "the Final Solution"; and

WHEREAS, There are as many as one hundred seventy-four thousand Holocaust survivors in the United States, many of whom are elderly and infirm; and

WHEREAS, Recent studies have reported an alarming incidence of poverty among elderly survivors in the United States and confirmed that many survivors lack basic needs including food, shelter, medical care, prescription medication, and a satisfactory quality of life; and

WHEREAS, The National Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies has estimated that an additional thirty million dollars per year is needed to help survivors in the United States who are not receiving assistance; and

WHEREAS, There are an estimated 200 Holocaust survivors living in Washington state, with an average age of seventy-eight years; and

WHEREAS, A recent survey conducted jointly by the Jewish Family Service of Seattle and the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner's Holocaust Survivors Assistance Office found that aging survivors will require extensive home care and other social services in the near future; and

WHEREAS, A historic settlement was signed with Swiss banks in 1999 providing for one billion two hundred fifty million dollars in payments to victims of the Holocaust; and

whereas, The United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York oversees the Swiss settlement and is considering the reallocation of up to six hundred million dollars in unclaimed settlement funds to be used for humanitarian purposes benefiting needy Holocaust survivors around the world; and

WHEREAS, The International Commission of Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC) was established in 1998 and charged with establishing a just process that will expeditiously address the issue of unpaid insurance policies issued to victims of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, As a result of an agreement between the ICHEIC, the Federal Republic of Germany, and other parties, a Humanitarian Fund of one hundred sixty-five million dollars has been created to assist needy Holocaust survivors; and

WHEREAS, The ICHEIC Humanitarian Fund has, to date, distributed two million four hundred thousand dollars for the benefit of survivors in the United States, including twelve thousand dollars in the state of Washington; and

WHEREAS, The Washington State Insurance Commissioner holds a seat on the International Holocaust Task Force of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC); and

WHEREAS, The NAIC supports fair allocation of humanitarian funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that, in as much as there continue to be Holocaust survivors living anywhere in the world who lack basic needs, including food, shelter, and medical care

and other things essential to allow them to live out the remainder of their lives in basic dignity, any and all humanitarian or other discretionary funds obtained for, or on behalf of, Holocaust survivors be promptly disbursed in order to meet the current and anticipated basic needs of the survivors; and

Your Memorialists further pray that the funds be disbursed to the numbers of Holocaust survivors in order to meet the basic needs in fair proportion to their numbers worldwide based on accurate population data, with full and transparent accounting for the use of funds disbursed; and

Your Memorialists further pray that the Washington State Insurance Commissioner utilize his position on the NAIC International Holocaust Commission Task Force to further the intent of this Memorial.

BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Chair of the ICHEIC, the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, and the Washington State Insurance Commissioner.

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Washington State Legislature P.O. Box 40482 Olympia, Washington 98504-0482

Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation PO Box 8300 San Francisco, CA 94128-8300

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