State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Holocaust Remembrance Week

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry, Gypsies, the physically and mentally challenged, Poles, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, political dissidents and others by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945 for racial, ethnic, and national reasons; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, we should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the United States to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim May 1-8, 2011 as Holocaust Remembrance Week in memory of the Holocaust, in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators and urge all Rhode Islanders to join me in recognizing the importance of this week.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 1ST day of May, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor

A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State