

**PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 7TH
AS VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM MEMORIAL DAY**

WHEREAS, the year 2023 marks 106 years since the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia resulting in the world's first communist regime under Vladimir Lenin, which led to decades of oppression and violence under communist regimes throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, based on the philosophy of Karl Marx, communism has proven incompatible with the ideals of liberty, prosperity, and dignity of human life and has given rise to such infamous totalitarian dictators as Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh, Pol Pot, Nicolae Ceaușescu, the Castro brothers, and the Kim dynasty; and

WHEREAS, the State of Utah declares November 7 Victims of Communism Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump declared November 7, 2017 a National Day for the Victims of Communism, condemning communism as a political philosophy “incompatible with liberty, prosperity, and the dignity of human life;” and

WHEREAS, communist regimes worldwide have killed more than 100 million people and subjected countless others to the worst and widest-spread human rights abuses known to history, with victims representing many different ethnicities, creeds, and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, through false promises of equality and liberation, communist regimes have as a matter of government policy robbed their own citizens of the rights of freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of association through coercion, brutality, and fear; and

WHEREAS, many victims of communism were persecuted as political prisoners for speaking out against these regimes, and others were killed in genocidal state-sponsored purges; and

WHEREAS, in addition to violating basic human rights, communist regimes have suppressed freedom of conscience, cultural life, and self-determination movements in more than 40 nations; and

WHEREAS, the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C., is a nonprofit organization, authorized by unanimous Act of the United States Congress that educates people about the ideology, history, and legacy of communism and honors the people who have suffered and died under communist regimes;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED by the County of Salt Lake, that November 7, in 2023 and in each succeeding year, be designated as Victims of Communism Memorial Day; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Council transmit a copy of this resolution to the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation so that members of the organization may be apprised of the county's action on this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That this designation be posted on the County's website.

SIGNED AND PROCLAIMED this ___ day of _____, 2023.

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____

Aimee Winder Newton, Chair