

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2024-4655, by Representatives Senn, Couture, Pollet, Rude, Goodman, Callan, Street, Reed, Timmons, Santos, Macri, and Schmick

1 WHEREAS, The Holocaust Center for Humanity is a Seattle-based
2 organization dedicated to teaching and honoring the history, stories,
3 and lessons of the Holocaust; and

4 WHEREAS, Dee Simon has worked at the Holocaust Center for
5 Humanity as the Chief Executive Officer since 2006; and

6 WHEREAS, Dee's mother, Frieda Soury, was a Holocaust survivor
7 born in 1929 in Ostrava, Czechoslovakia to a Jewish father and a non-
8 Jewish mother. She was designated a "mischling" (half-Jewish) by the
9 Nazis and deported to the concentration camp of Theresienstadt in
10 1943, liberated in 1945. Frieda moved to Israel when she was 18 and
11 later immigrated to the United States with her husband and three
12 children. She passed away in 2022; and

13 WHEREAS, Dee discussed and shared stories of her mother's
14 resilience and determination, along with how it shaped her own
15 passion to become an impactful Washingtonian; and

16 WHEREAS, under Dee's leadership, the organization has transformed
17 from a small resource center to a nationally recognized education and
18 advocacy center of excellence; and

19 WHEREAS, Dee spearheaded the capital campaign to create the
20 current museum space in Seattle to advance their work for the
21 community of Washington State and beyond; and

22 WHEREAS, Dee helped start and implement the Law Enforcement and
23 Society (LEAS) program in Seattle, and a robust statewide educator

1 and law enforcement training program around antisemitism and bias;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, During her tenure, Dee worked with the Washington State
4 Legislature to pass a formal curriculum recommendation and funding of
5 Holocaust education that trains over 800 teachers in 229 schools each
6 year; and

7 WHEREAS, Dee will retire from the Holocaust Center for Humanity
8 in the summer of 2024; and

9 WHEREAS, International Holocaust Remembrance Day is January 27th,
10 2024;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
12 recognize the outstanding accomplishments and contributions of Dee
13 Simon to the State of Washington.

--- END ---