A Resolution to Acknowledge Yom HaShoah

Abigail Berk (for themself, Lauren Sutherland, Anna Valerius, and Kelsey Lowman) introduced the following legislation to the Steering Committee, where it passed. Then, to the floor, where it passed.

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Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at the Ohio State University, and

Whereas Yom HaShoah is occurring on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, and

Whereas the Holocaust must be remembered because it is an example of how certain thought processes can devolve into a mass extinction, and

Whereas the Holocaust occurred during a time of mass antisemitism which mirrors the xenophobia, Islamophobia, Nationalism and the like which are prevalent today, and

Whereas over 11 million people were murdered, making this event one of the largest genocides in human history¹, and

Whereas people of all different identities were murdered during the Holocaust, including Jewish people, Soviet civilians and prisoners of war, people with disabilities, Roma, Jehovah’s Witnesses, German political opponents, and people who identified as LGBTQ, among others, and

Whereas those who were killed and the stories of survivors must be remembered and honored alike, and

Whereas the number of survivors who are still alive is dwindling, and

Whereas without education and remembrance, the Holocaust and the events leading up to it could be forgotten or misrepresented in the future, and

Whereas the Holocaust is sadly only one example of mass genocides that have taken place all throughout the world, including the mass genocide occurring against the Rohingya Muslims occurring today, and

Whereas examples of hate against all identities continues today,

Whereas there are three hate groups being tracked in Columbus and eight hate groups being tracked statewide in Ohio\(^2\), and

Whereas there were three reported hate crimes in 2018, ten in 2017, and thirty-two in 2016 on the Columbus campus, and

Whereas the attitudes and behaviors of 20th century Nazis is alarmingly similar to 21st century White Supremacists and Neonazis.

Therefore, Let it Be Resolved the Undergraduate Student Government affirms the recognition of Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) every year, and

Let it Further be Resolved the Undergraduate Student Government work to stop occurrences of hate and bias occurring within its organization and on The Ohio State University’s campus as a whole.

Floor Vote: Passed with General Consent

__________________________________________  __________________________
Nathan Rush                                                                          Roaya Higazi
Speaker of the General Assembly                                                      President

Date Adopted: ____________

\(^2\) https://www.splcenter.org/states/ohio