

SB 373 -- Holocaust Awareness

SPONSOR: Schupp

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass-Consent" by the House Consent and Procedure Committee by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill modifies the current definition of "holocaust" as used in the Holocaust Education and Awareness Commission Act. The definition of holocaust used in the bill is the period from 1933 to 1945 during which six million Jews and millions of others were murdered by the Nazis as part of a state-sanctioned program of genocide. The definition is no longer restricted to murders occurring only within Nazi concentration camps.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will correct a definitional error that implied that the murder of 12 million individuals during the Holocaust occurred only in Nazi concentration camps. This is a useful correction and will provide clarity to the historical record.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Schupp and Jean Cavender.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.