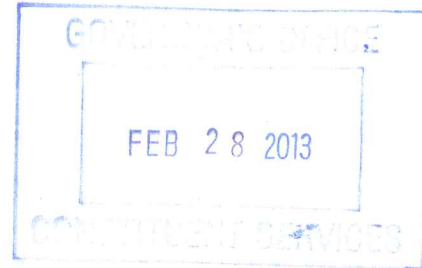


February 19, 2013

The Honorable Deval Patrick
Office of the Governor
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133



Dear Governor Patrick:

The U.S. Congress established the Days of Remembrance as America's annual commemoration of the Holocaust and mandated that the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum lead our nation in these observances. This year Holocaust remembrance week is April 7-14. The Museum encourages civic, military, religious, and educational institutions from across the country to hold ceremonies and other events, and we invite you to join us in marking this important observance.

Your personal leadership is critical to our national commitment to remember this history and educate our citizens about the consequences of unchecked hatred. In addition to commemorating the Days of Remembrance with special programs, we hope you will also issue a *Days of Remembrance Proclamation* for distribution to the citizens of Massachusetts. A sample is enclosed for your consideration. We would also appreciate it if you would send a copy of your proclamation to proclamations@ushmm.org for the Museum's institutional archives.

This year's theme *Never Again: Heeding the Warning Signs* examines events of 1938 a time when state sponsored persecution of Jews intensified yet the Holocaust could have been prevented. Why did so many countries and individuals fail to respond to the warning signs of the Holocaust 75 years ago? And what can we learn from the few who chose to act, despite widespread indifference?

Please visit the Museum's website at www.ushmm.org/remembrance for further information and resources, including an opportunity for communities to upload information about their 2013 commemorations and learn about other observances nationwide. In addition, the Museum has created a CD/DVD with suggestions and ready-to-use materials for organizing civic, military and interfaith programs. A short essay on this year's theme and a copy of the *Planning Guide and Resources for Annual Holocaust Commemorations* are enclosed.

Thank you for your partnership with us in this important mission.

Sincerely,

Tom A. Bernstein
Chairman

Sara J. Bloomfield
Director

Enclosures

2400803