

Substitute for House Resolution No. 311.

A resolution to declare July 11, 2016, as Srebrenica Remembrance Day and July 11-17, 2016, as Bosnia and Herzegovina Tribute Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Both the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives passed resolutions in 2005 acknowledging the genocide that the Serbian forces perpetrated in Srebrenica and all of Bosnia from 1992-1995; and

Whereas, The Michigan Legislature has passed a Srebrenica Remembrance Day and Bosnia and Herzegovina Tribute Week resolution every year since 2009; and

Whereas, July 11, 2016, is commemorated as the 21st anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide in which at least 8,372 innocent Bosniak civilians were summarily executed and 30,000 were expelled from their homes in the worst atrocity in Europe since the Holocaust; and

Whereas, This anniversary, together with this year's 24th anniversary since the beginning of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, raises awareness of the tragic suffering of the Bosnian people and honors and remembers over 100,000 civilians who died as a result of the policies of ethnic cleansing and aggression in Bosnia and Herzegovina during the period of 1992-1995; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan recognizes the importance of this event to bring closure for the Bosnian people through justice and truth; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare July 11, 2016, as Srebrenica Remembrance Day and July 11-17, 2016, as Bosnia and Herzegovina Tribute Week in the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the representatives of the Congress of North American Bosniaks as evidence of our profound respect and esteem.