

THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



(126th General Assembly)
(House Resolution Number 212)

RESOLUTION

To recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution, the sacrifices of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters, the contributions that Hungarian-Americans have made to Ohio and America, and the one hundredth anniversary of the American Hungarian Federation, and to urge all Ohioans to honor and commemorate the contributions of Hungarian-Americans.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio:

WHEREAS, On October 23, 1956, hundreds of thousands of Hungarians gathered in a peaceful call for democracy and an end to the brutal Soviet-dominated Hungarian Communist government. Hungarian security police fired on those peaceful protesters, killing hundreds and triggering a bloody fight for freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, The Hungarian Freedom Fighters established a revolutionary government that took preliminary steps to form a democracy and break from the Soviet-controlled Warsaw Pact. In response to the revolt, the Soviet Union launched a massive military counteroffensive on November 4, 1956. The poorly-equipped Hungarian Army and Hungarian Freedom Fighters gallantly resisted for several days until their eventual defeat; and

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WHEREAS, Thousands of Hungarians were tortured, tried, and executed by the post-1956 Hungarian government. Of the more than 200,000 Hungarians who fled after the defeat of the revolt, more than 47,000 settled in the United States, many in Ohio, where they have contributed greatly to the cultural diversity and the economic strength of Ohio and the United States; and

WHEREAS, On October 23, 1989, the Republic of Hungary proclaimed its independence and began a process of becoming closer to the Western community of nations. The Ohio National Guard played an important role in this process through the Partnership for Peace Program as Hungary's partner in preparation for Hungary's joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and

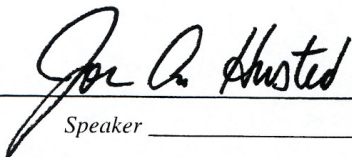
WHEREAS, On March 12, 1999, the Hungarian government, reflecting the will of its people, became a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and on May 1, 2004, Hungary became a member of the European Union; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 126th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, which set the stage for the ultimate collapse of Communism in 1989 throughout Central and Eastern Europe; express gratitude to the Hungarian Freedom Fighters, many of whom sacrificed their lives for freedom, for their bravery in the face of insurmountable odds; and express condolences to the people of Hungary and the families who lost loved ones in the Revolution and its aftermath; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 126th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, express thanks to those Hungarian refugees who brought their talents, skills, and love of freedom to help build a stronger Ohio and America; express gratitude to the citizens of Ohio who opened their arms to the Hungarian refugees and assisted them in making their homes throughout, Ohio; and congratulate the American Hungarian Federation, whose members include many Hungarian Freedom Fighters, on its centennial anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 126th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge all citizens of Ohio to honor and commemorate the sacrifices and the contributions of Hungarian-American friends and neighbors during this fiftieth anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives send duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary to the United States, the American Hungarian Federation, and the news media of Ohio and make copies of this resolution available to other Hungarian-American organizations in Ohio.



Speaker _____ of the House of Representatives.

Adopted May 24, 2006