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LRB100 20455 MST 36059 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Polish President Andrzej Duda recently signed a law that would impose jail terms for suggesting that the country of Poland was complicit in crimes against humanity committed on Polish soil during the Holocaust; and

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WHEREAS, Over three million of Poland's 3.4 million Jews were murdered by the Nazis, accounting for about half of the Jews killed in the Holocaust across the continent of Europe; and

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WHEREAS, Jews were killed in death camps operated by Germany in Poland, including Auschwitz, Treblinka, Belzec, and Sobibor; and

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WHEREAS, Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel, has stated that "One cannot change history, and the Holocaust cannot be denied"; and

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WHEREAS, About 6,700 Poles were in fact commemorated by Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial for rescuing Jews, the largest number in any country; and

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WHEREAS, This legislation is an attempt to whitewash history; and

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1 WHEREAS, The concept of "Never Forget" should be instilled
2 upon all people; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly condemn
5 this legislation signed by the President of Poland, as freedom
6 of speech must never be a crime; by speaking freely about the
7 history of the Holocaust, we help assure that such atrocities
8 will never happen again.