

**STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE**

**2012**

**Source**  
SCR 18

**Legislative  
Resolve No.**  
33



Establishing August 4, 2012, as Raoul Wallenberg Remembrance Day.

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**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**WHEREAS** Raoul Wallenberg was born in Sweden on August 4, 1912, to Swedish Christian parents; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1935, Raoul Wallenberg graduated from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, completing a five-year program in architectural design in three years; and

**WHEREAS** Raoul Wallenberg returned to Sweden, where he began a career as a businessman and later became a Swedish diplomat; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1944, during World War II, the United States was at war with and did not have diplomatic relations with Hungary; and

**WHEREAS** United States Secretary of State Cordell Hull requested the cooperation of Sweden, a neutral nation, in protecting the lives of 750,000 Hungarian Jews facing extermination at the hands of the Nazis; and

**WHEREAS**, at the request of the United States, Raoul Wallenberg, in his official capacity as a Swedish diplomat, agreed to act in Hungary to protect Jews and victims of the Nazis; and

**WHEREAS**, with extraordinary courage and total disregard for the constant danger to himself, Raoul Wallenberg, as a young diplomat, outdueled Nazi Lieutenant Colonel Adolf Eichmann in Budapest, Hungary, and, from July through December 1944, Wallenberg miraculously saved more than 100,000 innocent men, women, and children from the Nazi death camps; and

**WHEREAS**, when the Nazi regime fell and the Soviets liberated Budapest, Raoul Wallenberg then endured tragic imprisonment and death in a Soviet Gulag under Communist dictator Josef Stalin's directives and in violation of Wallenberg's diplomatic immunity and international law; and

**WHEREAS** the late United States Congressman Tom Lantos, who was rescued by Wallenberg in Budapest, served for several years as economic adviser and chief of staff to former Alaska Congressman Mike Gravel; and

**WHEREAS** history has revealed that heroic acts of salvation were rare during the massacre of millions of innocent human beings during World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1981, Congress proclaimed Raoul Wallenberg an honorary citizen of the United States, and President Ronald Reagan signed and awarded the honor; and

**WHEREAS** the year 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg's birth;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims August 4, 2012, to be Raoul Wallenberg Remembrance Day in honor of the courage of Raoul Wallenberg, whose life demonstrated moral courage and love in the face of incomprehensible evil and showed that one person can make a difference.