



Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum
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11 September 2026

Congresswoman Claudia Tenney
2230 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Tenney:

I am President of the Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum, located in Oswego County, New York. The museum interprets the unique history and significance of the Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter, which served as the only camp for nearly 1000 mostly-Jewish Holocaust victims in the United States during WWII.

On behalf of the museum's officers, board, membership, remaining refugees, and their families, I am writing in support of passage of H.R. 1031 – the Fort Ontario Holocaust Refugee Shelter National Historical Park Establishment Act.

After witnessing the horrors of a Nazi concentration camp, Lt. General Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered American troops in theater to tour a camp. He said that the American soldier may not know what he is fighting for, but after visiting a camp, he will know what he is fighting against. Eisenhower warned that someday a movement to deny the Holocaust may arise.

Passage of H.R. 1031 is important to us because the day Eisenhower warned about has arrived - anti-Semitism and Holocaust denials are on the rise. As a National Historical Park, on a portion of America's only camp for Hitler's victims on American soil, Fort Ontario will raise awareness of the horrors of the Holocaust, the terrible waste and human cost of hate and anti-Semitism, and provide proof to deniers that the Holocaust happened.

Once again, I would like to express our support for H.R. 1031: we are deeply grateful to you and the bill's other sponsors for working towards its passage.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Lear