

2011-J5270

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Munich 11 tragedy and honoring the memory of the 11 Israeli athletes during the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London, England

WHEREAS, Around 4:00 a.m. on September 5, 1972, members of Black September, disguised as athletes, scaled a 6-foot fence surrounding the Olympic Village and made their way to the dormitory housing the Israeli athletes; under their clothing and in the sports bags they carried, the terrorists carried Kalashnikov assault rifles; and

WHEREAS, The two leaders of the group had previously gone undercover in the Olympic Village prior to the Games and, knowing the location and layout of their intended target, they made their way to 31 Connollystrasse, a building housing members of the Israeli delegation, and took 11 Israeli athletes hostage; and

WHEREAS, After several failed rescue attempts by German officers, the terrorists demanded safe passage for themselves and the hostages to a friendly country; that failing, the terrorists then attempted to negotiate, demanding the release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails in exchange for the hostages; and

WHEREAS, During one last rescue attempt, German officers opened gun fire which led to the deaths of several of the terrorists; unfortunately the remaining terrorists opened fire on the hostages killing them all before the remaining terrorists were killed; and

WHEREAS, During this observance of the 40th Anniversary of the Munich 11 tragedy, the memory of those 11 Israeli athletes will be remembered; and

WHEREAS, From August 12 to 17, 2012, delegations from throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Israel will not only test their physical skills, they will also participate in a cultural journey while learning the values of teamwork, sportsmanship, compassion, and community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Munich 11 tragedy and to honor the memory of the 11 Israeli athletes during the 2012 Summer Olympic

Games in London, England.