



Sunset Advisory Commission  
P.O. Box 13066  
Austin, Texas 78711

December 16, 2020

**Re: Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission**

To Members of the Sunset Advisory Commission:

We are writing to urge you to continue funding the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission (“THGC”).

Holocaust Survivors founded the Dallas Memorial Center for Holocaust Studies in 1984, now the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum (“The Museum”). In the small Museum that they created we were teaching as many as 35,000 students each year. With our new facility, we anticipate upwards of 150,000 students and visitors yearly. Grants from THGC helped make this possible and support the Museum’s education programs.

In 1984, Survivor Mike Jacobs traveled to Belgium to retrieve a German boxcar for display in the Museum. This artifact, a symbol of deportation and dehumanization, was fully restored with a grant from THGC. This restoration project has won high acclaim and media attention. It is a visual display that will forever serve to educate and remind current and future generations about the atrocities committed when hatred, bigotry, and prejudice go unchecked.

The Holocaust was a seminal event in western civilization. Its influence on world events and our community is still evident today. Across Texas, THGC, educators, museums, and similar organizations are leading efforts to teach tolerance through Holocaust history and genocide studies.

The Texas legislature recognized this educational need by passing SB 1828, requiring a Holocaust Remembrance Week in schools and making THGC the resource provider for the Holocaust Remembrance Week. Texas teachers and museum educators now depend on THGC for educational resources. Ongoing funding from THGC is vital to continue this important state-wide educational effort.

We, as Survivors, 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Survivors, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Survivors, have been active teachers of this grim subject. Regretfully, we are a dwindling community. We are trying to teach the next teachers, and THGC’s mission, much needed outreach, and education staff help fill the gap.

Sincerely,

Max Glauben  
**2019 Texan of the Year**  
Holocaust Survivor  
Majdanek, Budzin, Mielec,  
Wieliczka, and Flossenburg

Magie Furst  
Holocaust Survivor  
Kindertransport Refugee

Bert Romberg  
Holocaust Survivor  
Kindertransport Refugee

Mark E. Jacobs  
2<sup>nd</sup> generation Holocaust Survivor  
Son of Texas Holocaust Survivor Mike Jacobs

Rivka Altman  
3<sup>rd</sup> generation Holocaust Survivor  
Granddaughter of Texas Holocaust Survivor Mike Jacobs  
President, Mike Jacobs Holocaust Education Foundation