

Vilnius
4 October 2011

To Chair of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania
Irena Degutiene

Honorable Mrs. Irena Degutiene,

The Lithuanian Jewish community thanks the **Lithuanian State** for the resolution of September 21, 2010, on naming 2011 the Year of Commemoration of Lithuanian Residents Who Became Holocaust Victims, which expresses sincere honor to the victims of the Holocaust. We hope that Lithuanian society will be made widely acquainted with the history of the Jews of Lithuania as well as the Holocaust, and that the Government of the Republic of Lithuania **together with** the Lithuanian Jewish Community and **other interested institutions** will be preparing the Holocaust program.

Several days after the proclamation of the aforementioned resolution, on September 28, 2010, the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania adopted a resolution on naming 2011 the Year of Commemoration of the Defense of Freedom and Great Losses.

The Lithuanian Jewish community has expressed before its view on the events of 1941 and the Provisional Government of Lithuania as well as **Double Genocide** (a copy of the statement is attached). We believe that “year of commemoration of great losses” in the title is also applicable to **Lithuanian Jews**.

It should not be forgotten that the mass murder of Jews in Lithuania began in June, 1941. **We believe that the Lithuanian Jewish community must be included in the program for the of honoring the memory of great losses and events should be coordinated with the Lithuanian Jewish community.**

With great respect,
Simonas Alperavičius

Copies:

Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Lithuania
Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania
Mr. Andrius Kubilius
Foreign Minister of the Republic of Lithuania
Mr. Audronius Azubalis
Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the State of Israel
Mr. Darius Degutis