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**SCHAKOWSKY HAILS PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION PERMANENTLY EXEMPTING
HOLOCAUST RESTITUTION PAYMENTS FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAXES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today applauded the passage of H.R. 4823, Holocaust Restitution Tax Fairness Act of 2002, legislation that would ensure that survivors and families of victims are permanently exempt from paying federal taxes on Holocaust restitution payments.

"It is disgraceful that we are still facing obstacles and roadblocks as we attempt to deliver a small measure of justice to Holocaust survivors and families of victims of the greatest tragedy of the last Century," Schakowsky said.

She added, "However, with the passage of H.R. 4823 we can claim a small, yet important victory. After waiting for far too many years to receive a symbolic restitution that does not scratch the surface of what was plundered, stolen or measure the depth of human suffering, survivors and families of victims should not have to give up a fraction of what is rightfully theirs."

Federal payments from Medicare, housing assistance, and other programs would not be reduced by this legislation. As many as 100,000 people in the United States, including 10,000 in Illinois can benefit from this legislation.