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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DECLARING APRIL 24 AS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE IN RECOGNITION AND  
COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE OF 1915.

1           WHEREAS, during the chaos of World War I between the years  
2 1915 and 1923, one and a half million Armenian men, women, and  
3 children living within the Ottoman Empire's borders were killed  
4 in a brutal genocide; and

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6           WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of Armenians were forced to  
7 flee to foreign countries after being stripped of their  
8 possessions, their national identities, and their homeland; and

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10          WHEREAS, documented as the first instance of genocide in  
11 the twentieth century, the Armenian genocide remains  
12 unacknowledged by the Republic of Turkey to this day; and

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14          WHEREAS, even though over ninety years have passed since  
15 these mass killings took place, present day atrocities continue  
16 to resonate throughout the world; and

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18          WHEREAS, it is every person's responsibility to recognize  
19 the brutal slayings of so many innocents, remember their  
20 suffering, and vow to help prevent future occurrences of  
21 genocide; and

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23          WHEREAS, Armenia's ties to Hawaii started in the 1920s with  
24 the gifted painter Arman T. Manookian, a genocide survivor, who  
25 lived in Hawaii for almost six years before his tragic death in  
26 1931, and who became known as Hawaii's Van Gogh; and

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28          WHEREAS, Hawaii has a growing Armenian-American community  
29 that is involved in all aspects of public life, including  
30 business, education, and government; and

31



# H.C.R. NO. 224

1 WHEREAS, each year, Armenians throughout the world honor  
2 those who perished in the first genocide of the twentieth  
3 century, and all the people of the world should join in  
4 recognizing and commemorating the Armenian genocide to ensure  
5 that this ugly testament to man's inhumanity to man is never  
6 forgotten; now, therefore,

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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
9 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
10 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature hereby  
11 declares April 24 as a day of remembrance in recognition and  
12 commemoration of the Armenian genocide; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature joins with  
15 Hawaii's Armenian-American community and all Armenians worldwide  
16 in recognizing and honoring those who were killed and persecuted  
17 during the Armenian genocide, and urging people throughout the  
18 world to never forget these horrific crimes against humanity;  
19 and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, who in  
23 turn is requested to transmit copies to the Executive Director  
24 of the Armenian National Committee of America and Armenian State  
25 Committee of Hawaii.

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27  
28 OFFERED BY:

Kal N. Brooks

MAR 18 2009

