
HOUSE 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
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32 WHEREAS, each year, Armenians throughout the world honor
33 those who perished in the first genocide of the twentieth
34 century, and all the people of the world should join in
35 recognizing and commemorating the Armenian genocide to ensure



1 that this ugly testament to man's inhumanity to man is never
2 forgotten; now, therefore,

3
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2009, that the Legislature hereby declares April 24 as a day
7 of remembrance in recognition and commemoration of the Armenian
8 genocide; and

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

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, who in turn is
19 requested to transmit copies to the Executive Director of the
20 Armenian National Committee of America and Armenian State
21 Committee of Hawaii.

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23
24 OFFERED BY: _____

Kal Moorh

MAR 18 2009

