

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3

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2001 Regular Session
11r0905
CF 11r1524

(PRE-FILED)

By: ~~Delegate Hixson~~ Delegates Hixson, Bartlett, Barve, Bohanan, Boshert, Boutin, Cryor, DeCarlo, Franchot, Hammen, Healey, Hecht, Heller, Howard, Hurson, Krysiak, Love, Marriott, McHale, Menes, Patterson, Petzold, Riley, Rosso, Shriver, and Sophocleus

Requested: November 15, 2000
Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2001
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters
Reassigned: Ways and Means, January 15, 2001

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted with floor amendments
Read second time: March 31, 2001

RESOLUTION NO. _____

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Maryland Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide**

3 FOR the purpose of remembering the Armenian Genocide; and designating April 24
4 as "Maryland Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide ~~of 1915-1923 in~~
5 1915 and thereafter".

6 WHEREAS, One and one-half million men, women, and children of Armenian
7 descent were victims of the ~~brutal~~ genocide perpetrated by the ~~Turkish~~ Ottoman
8 Empire ~~from 1915 to 1923~~ in 1915 and thereafter; and

9 WHEREAS, The Armenian Genocide and massacres of the Armenian people
10 represented a ~~deliberate~~ systematic attempt to eliminate ~~all traces of~~ a thriving and
11 noble civilization over 3,000 years old; and

12 ~~WHEREAS, The Armenian people have not received reparations for their losses;~~
13 ~~and~~

14 ~~WHEREAS, To this day revisionists still inexplicably deny the existence of these~~
15 ~~horrific events; and~~

16 ~~WHEREAS, Modern Turkey continues to deny and distort the facts of the~~
17 ~~Armenian Genocide, and honors the perpetrators of that crime against humanity as~~
18 ~~national heroes; and~~

1 WHEREAS, Prior to his invasion of Poland in 1939, Adolf Hitler, the German
2 Nazi dictator, seeking to dispel fears among his military command regarding the
3 world's response to his genocidal plans, asked "Who, after all, today speaks of the
4 Armenians?"; and

5 WHEREAS, Residents of Maryland are highly sensitive to the need for
6 consistently remembering and openly condemning the crimes committed against any
7 culture or people to prevent similar atrocities in the future; and

8 WHEREAS, Recognition of the ~~86th anniversary of this~~ Armenian genocide
9 Genocide is crucial to ensuring against the repetition of future genocides and
10 educating people about the atrocities connected to these horrific events; and

11 WHEREAS, Armenia is now a free and independent republic, having embraced
12 democracy following nearly 70 years of oppressive Soviet domination; and

13 WHEREAS, Armenian-Americans living in Maryland have greatly enriched our
14 State through their leadership in business, agriculture, academia, government, and
15 the arts; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
17 General Assembly of Maryland designates April 24 as "Maryland Day of
18 Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide ~~of 1915-1923~~"; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Governor in the Governor's annual message on or about
20 April 24 commemorate the Armenian Genocide and commend this observance to all
21 Maryland residents; and be it further

22 ~~RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of Maryland encourages that~~
23 ~~Maryland public schools develop programs similar to those already established in~~
24 ~~California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York, that focus on~~
25 ~~human rights, with specific attention given to the Armenian Genocide; and be it~~
26 ~~further~~

27 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
28 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
29 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
30 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it
31 further

32 ~~RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of~~
33 ~~Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.~~
34 ~~Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;~~
35 ~~and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,~~
36 ~~Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and~~
37 ~~Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and be it~~
38 ~~further~~

39 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
40 Legislative Services to the Armenian National Committee of Maryland, 4906 Flint

- 1 Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20816; and the Armenian Assembly of America, 122 C
- 2 Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, D.C. 20001.