

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3

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2001 Regular Session  
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(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegate Hixson**

Requested: November 15, 2000

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2001

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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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".

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 WHEREAS, Recognition of the 86th anniversary of this genocide is crucial to  
26 ensuring against the repetition of future genocides and educating people about the  
27 atrocities connected to these horrific events; and

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

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

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

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

12 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of Maryland encourages that  
13 Maryland public schools develop programs similar to those already established in  
14 California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York, that focus on  
15 human rights, with specific attention given to the Armenian Genocide; and be it  
16 further

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

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

29 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
30 Legislative Services to the Armenian National Committee of Maryland, 4906 Flint  
31 Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20816; and the Armenian Assembly of America, 122 C  
32 Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, D.C. 20001.