

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

**W**hereas Since 1915, April 24<sup>th</sup> of each year has been imprinted upon the memory of the Armenian people worldwide. On this day the mass genocide of the Armenian people began in the Ottoman Turkish Empire, the first such genocide in the twentieth century; and

**W**hereas The Armenian citizens of the Commonwealth are dedicated to honoring the memory of the brave men and women who died; and

**W**hereas Armenian families were uprooted from their ancestral homeland, brutally exposed to all kinds of indignities with hundreds of thousands slain, resulting in more than half of the Armenian people killed; and

**W**hereas We consider all atrocities perpetrated by individuals or governments to be repulsive and abhorrent in civilized society; and

**W**hereas Americans of Armenian descent have contributed to the quality of life in Massachusetts in the best traditions of our state and nation, in times of war and peace; and

**W**hereas Our thoughts, offered in memory of the Armenian martyrs of 1915, will serve to remind everyone that persecution, torture, and killing must cease forever,

**N**ow, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010, to be,

## ARMENIAN MARTYRS DAY

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this twenty-fourth day of April, in the year two thousand and ten, and on the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-third.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH



God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts