

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas On April 24, 2915 a mass genocide of the Armenian population began in the Ottoman Turkish Empire, the first genocide in the twentieth century; and

Whereas Armenian families were uprooted from their ancestral homeland and brutally exposed to varied indignities, resulting in more than half of the Armenian population killed; and

Whereas We consider these atrocities against the Armenian people to be repulsive and abhorrent in civilized society; and

Whereas Americans of Armenian descent have contributed to the quality of life in the United State and Massachusetts in the best traditions of our nation and state, in times of war and peace; and

Whereas The Armenian citizens around the world and of the Commonwealth are dedicated to honoring the memory of the brave men and women who died; and

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

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim April 24th, 2015, 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 Seventeenth day of April, in the year two thousand and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in blue ink.

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in blue ink.

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in blue ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts