

CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

ARMENIAN MARTYRS DAY

WHEREAS, it is important for us to commemorate the over two million Armenians who perished at the hands of the Ottoman Turks in 1915 and those who survived the senseless tragedy; and

WHEREAS, many Armenians were forced to watch as their families were slaughtered and their ancestral homeland was taken from them; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of our great Commonwealth are Armenians who found refuge in a country and a Commonwealth based on freedom;

WHEREAS, Armenian-Americans are active participants in the growth of Virginia through their contributions in research, education, medicine, law, business, arts, sports and community service;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James S. Gilmore, III, do hereby recognize the April 24, 1998 as **ARMENIAN MARTYRS DAY** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

[Signed]

James S. Gilmore, III
Governor of the Commonwealth

Anne Petera
Secretary of the Commonwealth