

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD  
of  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, BETWEEN 1915-1923, THE EXTERMINATION OF MORE THAN ONE AND ONE-HALF MILLION ARMENIANS TOOK PLACE BY THE OTTOMAN TURKS; AND

WHEREAS, DURING THIS ATROCITY, ARMENIANS WERE FORCED TO WITNESS THE SLAUGHTER OF THEIR RELATIVES AND THE LOSS OF THEIR ANCESTRAL HOMELAND; AND

WHEREAS, ARMENIANS ASSERT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF MODERN DAY TURKEY REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE THE FACTS OF THE GENOCIDE; AND

WHEREAS, THE DENIAL OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE BY THE PRESENT DAY TURKISH GOVERNMENT SERVES TO TAINT HISTORY AND DISAVOWS ARMENIANS OF THE RIGHT TO THEIR HOMELAND AND HERITAGE; AND

WHEREAS, ANCESTRAL ARMENIAN LANDS TAKEN BY THE OTTOMAN TURKS HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED TO THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE, NOR HAVE THE ARMENIANS RECEIVED COMPENSATION FOR THEIR LOSSES; AND

WHEREAS, ARMENIANS HAVE TRADITIONALLY DESIGNATED APRIL 24 AS ARMENIAN MARTYRS DAY, IN RECOGNITION AND REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO DIED DURING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE; AND

WHEREAS, THE 1996 MARKS THE 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGEDY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE; AND

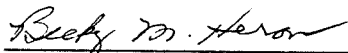
WHEREAS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER HISTORY SO THAT MISTAKES OF THE PAST ARE NOT REPEATED IN FUTURE GENERATIONS.


NOW, THEREFORE, WE THE DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 24, 1996 AS

## ARMENIAN MARTYRS DAY

IN DURHAM COUNTY.


THIS THE 22ND DAY OF APRIL, 1996.

  
BECKY M. HERON, CHAIRMAN

  
ELLEN W. RECKHOW, VICE-CHAIRMAN

  
MARYANN E. BLACK

  
EDWARD C. DEVITO SR.

  
TOMMY HUNT

