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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 366 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY LEACH, MAY 16, 2016

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 16, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 24, 2016, as "Pennsylvania's Day of  
2 Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923."

3 WHEREAS, The Armenian Genocide, also known as the Armenian  
4 Holocaust, the Armenian Massacres and, traditionally by  
5 Armenians, as Medz Yeghern, which is translated as "Great  
6 Crime," was the Ottoman government's systematic extermination of  
7 its minority Armenian subjects from their historic homeland  
8 within the territory constituting the present-day Republic of  
9 Turkey; and

10 WHEREAS, The starting date of the genocide is conventionally  
11 held to be April 24, 1915, the day Ottoman authorities rounded  
12 up and arrested some 250 Armenian intellectuals and community  
13 leaders in Constantinople; and

14 WHEREAS, The genocide was carried out between 1915 and 1923  
15 in two phases resulting in an estimated 1.5 million victims; and

16 WHEREAS, The Armenian genocide and massacres of the Armenian  
17 people have been recognized as an attempt to eliminate all  
18 traces of a thriving and noble civilization more than 3,000

1 years old; and

2 WHEREAS, By consistently remembering and openly condemning  
3 the atrocities committed against the Armenians, Pennsylvanians  
4 affirm the need for constant vigilance to prevent similar  
5 atrocities in the future; and

6 WHEREAS, The Armenian people have not received reparations  
7 for their losses; and

8 WHEREAS, Recognition of the 101st anniversary of the Armenian  
9 genocide and education about past horrors is crucial to ensuring  
10 against future genocide; and

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

14 WHEREAS, Armenian Americans living in Pennsylvania have  
15 greatly enriched this Commonwealth through their leadership in  
16 business, agriculture, academia, government and the arts;  
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate April 24, 2016, as  
19 "Pennsylvania's Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of  
20 1915-1923."