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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 86 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY LEACH, APRIL 24, 2017

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 24, 2017

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating April 24, 2017, as "Pennsylvania's Day of  
2 Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923."

3 WHEREAS, The Armenian Genocide was the Ottoman government's  
4 systematic extermination of its minority Armenian subjects from  
5 their historic homeland within the territory constituting the  
6 present-day Republic of Turkey; and

7 WHEREAS, The genocide is also known as the Armenian Holocaust  
8 and the Armenian Massacres and, traditionally by Armenians, as  
9 Medz Yeghern, which is translated as "Great Crime"; and

10 WHEREAS, The genocide is considered to have begun on April  
11 24, 1915, the date that Ottoman authorities rounded up and  
12 arrested several hundred 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 genocide of the Armenian people has been  
17 recognized as an attempt to eliminate all traces of a thriving  
18 and noble civilization more than 3,000 years old; and

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

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

7       WHEREAS, Recognition of the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian  
8 Genocide and education about past horrors is crucial to ensuring  
9 against future genocide; and

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

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

17       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate April 24, 2017, as  
18 "Pennsylvania's Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of  
19 1915-1923."