**A Resolution to Recognize the Armenian Genocide**

**WHEREAS**, in 1915, leaders in the Turkish government set forth a plan to expel and massacre Armenians living in the Ottoman Empire; and

**WHEREAS**, by the early 1920’s over 1.5 million Armenians were either dead or displaced from their traditional lands; and

**WHEREAS**, the Turks are predominantly Muslim and the Armenians were predominantly Christian; and

**WHEREAS**, between 1915 and 1922, squads of Turks engaged in killing, raping, and kidnapping Armenians with the goal of eliminating them from their historic territory; and

**WHEREAS**, most countries have officially recognized this as a genocide; and

**WHEREAS**, except for Ronald Reagan in 1981, every United States president has refrained from using the term “genocide” for fear of alienating the Turkish government; and

**WHEREAS**, Turkish President Erdogan has made public statements denying the genocide while seeking dictatorial powers in Turkey; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** By the Congress here assembled that the United States recognizes Turkish actions against the Armenian people as a genocide and shall take this into consideration with respect to foreign policy.