

# ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 58

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 213th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2008 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

Assemblywoman JOAN M. VOSS

District 38 (Bergen)

**Co-Sponsored by:**

Assemblyman Chivukula

**SYNOPSIS**

Recognizes 90th anniversary of Armenian Genocide.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



**AJR58 VOSS**

2

- 1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** recognizing the 90th anniversary of the  
2 Armenian Genocide.  
3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, From 1915 to 1923, 1.5 million Armenian people were  
5 systematically persecuted and executed by the governments of  
6 the Ottoman Empire in the first genocide of the twentieth  
7 century; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, The genocide began on the night of April 24, 1915,  
9 when the Turkish government arrested more than 200 Armenian  
10 community leaders in Constantinople and hundreds more soon  
11 after; and
- 12 **WHEREAS**, Most of the prominent public figures of the Armenian  
13 community were summarily executed; and
- 14 **WHEREAS**, The Armenian people were then systematically subject  
15 to deportation, expropriation, abduction, torture, massacre and  
16 starvation; and
- 17 **WHEREAS**, Hundreds of thousands of Armenian men, women and  
18 children were forcibly removed from their homes and deported to  
19 the Syrian desert, where the majority of the deportees died of  
20 dehydration and starvation; and
- 21 **WHEREAS**, It is estimated that by 1918, approximately one million  
22 people had perished, while hundreds of thousands had become  
23 homeless and stateless refugees; and
- 24 **WHEREAS**, By 1923, the entire landmass of Asia Minor and historic  
25 West Armenia had been expunged of its Armenian population;  
26 now therefore,

27  
28 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*  
29 *State of New Jersey:*  
30

31 1. This joint resolution recognizes the 90th anniversary of the  
32 Armenian Genocide and acknowledges the criminal mistreatment of  
33 the Armenians by the governments of the Ottoman Empire as an  
34 issue of international and historic significance.  
35

36 2. The Governor and the Legislature shall call upon the citizens  
37 of the State of New Jersey to recognize the 90th anniversary of the  
38 Armenian Genocide and honor the memory of the 1.5 million  
39 people who died as a result.  
40

41 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.  
42  
43

44 **STATEMENT**  
45

46 This joint resolution recognizes the 90th anniversary of the  
47 Armenian Genocide by the governments of the Ottoman Empire and  
48 acknowledges the criminal mistreatment of the Armenians by the

- 1 governments of the Ottoman Empire as an issue of international and
- 2 historic significance.
- 3 From 1915 to 1923, 1.5 million Armenian people were
- 4 systematically persecuted and executed in the first genocide of the
- 5 twentieth century.