



Gary Richard Herbert

Governor

## Declaration

Whereas, on April 24, 1915, 200 leaders of the Armenian community in Istanbul, in what was then the Ottoman Empire, were arrested and most were later executed;

Whereas, this began a system of mass annihilation of Armenians within the Ottoman Empire, which resulted in the death of more than a million Armenians as victims of horrendous atrocities;

Whereas, a number of Armenian individuals and families, among them the Megerdichians, Kevorks, Aposhians, Orullians, Plowgians, Ozunians, Sheranians, Paronyans, Bekearians, Baranyans, and others, were able to escape from anti-Armenian hostilities to the United States and settle in Utah;

Whereas, the Armenian community in Utah, numbering about 1,500 people, continues to enrich our state in the arts, science, education, commerce, and government, and we honor and recognize their outstanding contributions and determination to overcome much not only to make Utah their home, but to make their new home an even better state; and

Whereas, this special occasion offers an opportunity to rededicate ourselves individually and collectively to the principles of individual freedom in a just society, which empowers us to remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny;

Now, therefore, I, Gary R. Herbert, governor of the state of Utah, do hereby declare April 24, 2015, as

# Armenian Remembrance and Recognition Day

Gary R. Herbert  
Governor