

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 87

Reps. Manoogian, Breen, Brixie, Cavanagh, Ellison, Haadsma, Hammoud, Hood, Hope, Koleszar, Kuppa, Lasinski, Pohutsky, Rogers, Sabo, Sneller, Sowerby, Weiss, Witwer and Young offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to declare April 24, 2021, as a Day of  
2 Remembrance in the state of Michigan for the Armenian Genocide of  
3 1915-1923.

4       Whereas, The state of Michigan recognizes that the Armenian  
5 Genocide occurred from 1915 to 1923. Armenians, as well as Greeks,  
6 Assyrian-Chaldeans, Syriacs, Arameans, Maronites, and other  
7 Christians were subject to torture, starvation, mass murder, lethal  
8 human medical experimentation, and exile from their historic  
9 homeland. Over 1.5 million lost their lives. The Armenian Genocide

1 represented a deliberate attempt by the Ottoman Empire to eliminate  
2 all traces of an ancient, thriving, and noble civilization that had  
3 lived in these regions for millennia; and

4       Whereas, The majority of the Armenian population was displaced  
5 from their homes and forced to escape to neighboring and faraway  
6 communities and countries. Many refugees fled to the United States.  
7 Today, Michigan is honored to be home to a vibrant Armenian-  
8 American population of more than 17,000 Michiganders. This thriving  
9 community is a proud reminder of survival and perseverance in the  
10 face of extreme injustice; and

11       Whereas, Michigan Armenian churches and community  
12 organizations have organized numerous charity and community drives  
13 across the state, including, but not limited to, providing college  
14 scholarships for deserving students and serving Armenian refugee  
15 communities across the state; and

16       Whereas, Both houses of the 116th Congress of the United  
17 States voted to commemorate and recognize the atrocities of the  
18 Armenian Genocide, reject efforts to associate the United States  
19 government with efforts to deny the existence of the Armenian  
20 Genocide or any genocide, and encourage education and public  
21 understanding about the Armenian Genocide; and

22       Whereas, By recognizing and consistently remembering the  
23 Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, and all cases of past and ongoing  
24 genocide, we help protect historic memory, ensure that similar  
25 atrocities do not occur again, and remain vigilant against hatred,  
26 persecution and tyranny. The Armenian community of Michigan has  
27 used its deep understanding of historic pain and dispersal to  
28 constantly and consistently stand alongside other persecuted  
29 communities in Michigan and around the world; and

1       Whereas, Armenian communities around the world commemorate the  
2       tragedy of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, 2021. On this day, we  
3       honor the victims and survivors of the Genocide and reaffirm our  
4       commitment to preventing future atrocities from being committed  
5       against any people; now, therefore, be it

6       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
7       this legislative body declare April 24, 2021, as a Day of  
8       Remembrance in the state of Michigan for the Armenian Genocide of  
9       1915-1923.