

Date of Hearing: March 10, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES

Blanca Pacheco, Chair

ACR 35 (Papan) – As Introduced February 18, 2025

SUBJECT: Greek Independence Day.

SUMMARY: Designates March 25, 2025, as Greek Independence Day. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people. The Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy.
- 2) After centuries of unsuccessful uprisings and failure of the Ottoman Empire to assimilate and convert the Greeks, the Greek War of Independence began in 1821, rising up against 400 years of occupation and oppression by the Ottoman Turks. During the dark years of the Ottoman occupation, thousands were killed and tortured for attending church or teaching their children Greek culture, history, and language.
- 3) March 25, 2025, marks the 204th anniversary of the rebellion and the tenacity of the Greek people to stand strong against the Ottoman Empire.
- 4) Greece and the United States of America are at the forefront of the effort for freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights. These and other ideals have forged a close bond between our two nations and their peoples.
- 5) Approximately 3 million Greek Americans have joined mainstream society and begun to make significant contributions as Californians in the fields of finance, technology, law, medicine, education, sports, media, the arts, the military, and government, as well as in other areas.
- 6) Greek Independence Day reminds us of the strong principles and bonds that the United States of America and Greece share, including a commitment to the democratic ideals of justice and freedom.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800