
THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 87
Author: Archuleta (D), et al.
Introduced: 3/10/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Armenian Genocide

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution provides that April 24, 2026, be recognized as “State of California Day of Commemoration of the 111th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915–1923”.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The Armenian nation was subjected to a systematic and premeditated genocide officially beginning on April 24, 1915, at the hands of the Young Turk Government of the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1919, inclusive, and continued at the hands of the Kemalist Movement of Turkey from 1920 to 1923, inclusive, whereby over 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children were slaughtered or marched to their deaths in an effort to annihilate the Armenian nation in the first genocide of modern times, while thousands of surviving Armenian women and children were forced to convert to Islam and be raised as non-Armenians and hundreds of thousands more were subjected to ethnic cleansing during the period of the modern Republic of Turkey from 1924 to 1937.
- 2) California is home to the largest Armenian American population in the United States, and Armenians living in California have enriched our state through their leadership and contribution in business, agriculture, academia, government, and the arts, many of whom have family members who experienced firsthand the horror and evil of the Armenian Genocide and its ongoing denial.
- 3) The State of California has been at the forefront of encouraging and promoting a curriculum relating to human rights and genocide in order to empower future generations to prevent the recurrence of genocide.

This resolution provides that April 24, 2026, be recognized as “State of California Day of Commemoration of the 111th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915–1923”.

Related/Prior Legislation

SR 33 (Perez, 2025) – Adopted in the Senate.

SR 83 (Wilk and Portantino, 2024) – Adopted in the Senate.

SR 28 (Portantino, 2023) – Adopted in the Senate.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/3/26)

12 individuals

Assembly of Turkish American Associations

Global B Law Firm

Orange County Turkish American Association

The Consulate General of the Republic of Türkiye in Los Angeles

Turkish American Association of California

Turkish American Security Foundation

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