

House Resolution 16 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY STAED, KURTH, MASCHER, KACENA, STECKMAN, NIELSEN,
ANDERSON, OURTH, M. SMITH, BEARINGER, KEARNS,
McCONKEY, BENNETT, FINKENAUER, ABDUL-SAMAD, OLSON,
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1 A Resolution recognizing the month of April 2017 as
2 Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month.

3 WHEREAS, from 1915 to 1923, 1.5 million Armenians
4 and over 1 million Greeks, Assyrians, Pontians,
5 Syriacs, and others were massacred as part of the
6 planned eradication of these communities by the Ottoman
7 Turkish Empire; and

8 WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored,
9 systematic persecution and annihilation of European
10 Jews by Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945, resulting
11 in the murder of over 6 million Jews and millions more
12 Roma, Poles, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of
13 war, political dissidents, homosexuals, and people with
14 disabilities; and

15 WHEREAS, further cases of genocide include the
16 Cambodian killings in 1975, massacres in Bosnia
17 in 1992, the 1994 slaughter in Rwanda, and the
18 displacements and deaths in Darfur; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives
20 has adopted Concurrent Resolution 75, declaring the
21 atrocities perpetrated by the Islamic State against
22 Christians, Yezidis, and other religious and ethnic
23 minorities in Iraq and Syria war crimes, crimes against
24 humanity, and genocide; and

25 WHEREAS, all of these tragedies, separated by time

1 and distance, have one common thread, the murder of
2 men, women, and children, young and old alike, based
3 only on where they lived, what God they worshipped,
4 what language they spoke, or to what community they
5 belonged; and

6 WHEREAS, by recognizing and remembering the Armenian
7 genocide, the Holocaust, and all cases of past and
8 ongoing genocide, we help protect historic memory,
9 ensure that similar atrocities do not occur again,
10 and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and
11 tyranny; NOW THEREFORE,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
13 the House of Representatives recognizes the month of
14 April 2017 as Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month
15 in honor of all the survivors as well as rescuers and
16 liberators, and urges Iowa's schools, universities, and
17 civic organizations to raise public awareness of the
18 history and horror of genocide and encourages public
19 debate on how genocide may be eliminated.