

MAR 08 2024

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ACKNOWLEDGING AND URGING TURKEY AND IRAQ TO RECOGNIZE THE  
GENOCIDE COMMITTED AGAINST ASSYRIANS BETWEEN 1915-1933.

1           WHEREAS, international scholars emphasize the importance of  
2 acknowledging historic acts of genocide to deter future  
3 occurrences of mass violence; and  
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5           WHEREAS, formal state recognition of genocide can be an  
6 important first step in giving historians and scholars access to  
7 needed records; and  
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9           WHEREAS, this year marks the 109th anniversary of the  
10 Armenian, Assyrian, and Greek genocide of 1915 (also known as  
11 the Seyfo genocide), which was committed by Ottoman Turks; and  
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13           WHEREAS, between 1915 and 1923, approximately two-thirds of  
14 the Assyrian population were slaughtered while living in the  
15 Ottoman Empire and in Persia on ancestral lands; and  
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17           WHEREAS, in August 1933, approximately six thousand  
18 Assyrians were brutally murdered in Simele in the Dohuk and  
19 Mosul districts of modern-day Iraq by the nascent Iraqi army and  
20 irregular Kurdish and Arab forces; and  
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22           WHEREAS, the genocide committed against Assyrians has  
23 largely gone unrecognized and is denied by the governments of  
24 Iraq and Turkey; and  
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26           WHEREAS, the International Association of Genocide Scholars  
27 has found that the genocide against the Assyrian population was  
28 part of a larger campaign against Christian minorities,  
29 including Armenians and Pontian and Anatolian Greeks; and  
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31           WHEREAS, the European Parliament has urged Turkey to  
32 recognize the Armenian, Assyrian, and Greek genocides and to;



# S.C.R. NO. 75

1 and facilitate scholars' access to historical archives; now,  
2 therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the  
6 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature  
7 acknowledges the genocide committed against Assyrians between  
8 1915 and 1923 and the Seyfo genocide committed in 1933; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature joins the  
11 European Parliament in urging the governments of Turkey and Iraq  
12 to recognize the genocide against Assyrians and to give scholars  
13 access to historical archives and "all relevant documents"; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
16 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, United  
17 States Secretary of State, President of Turkey, President of  
18 Iraq, and International Association of Genocide Scholars.

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OFFERED BY:

