

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

*No. 199*

**Approved April 13, 2015**

WHEREAS, One and one half million men, women, and children of Armenian descent were victims of the genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire in 1915 and thereafter; and

WHEREAS, The killing of the Armenian people was accompanied by the systematic destruction of Armenian churches, schools, libraries, treasures of art, and cultural monuments in an attempt to eliminate all traces of a great civilization with a history of more than three thousand years; and

WHEREAS, Each year, Armenians throughout the world honor those who perished from 1915 to 1923; and

WHEREAS, 2015 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Armenian Community was founded by the survivors of the Genocide who came as refugees and settled in the Smith Hill and the South Providence neighborhoods of our city a hundred years ago; and

WHEREAS, Armenian-Americans living in Rhode Island have greatly enriched our state through their leadership in business, agriculture, academia, government, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, On April 23, 1999 the Armenian Genocide Monument was erected at the North Burial Ground to forever remember of all those who perished in this terrible tragedy; and

WHEREAS, Each April 24<sup>th</sup> the Armenian flag is flown over Providence City Hall in solidarity and unity with the descendants of this horrific crime; and

WHEREAS, Raising awareness about the Armenian Genocide is necessary, not only because it is an undeniable chapter of world history, but also to inspire people to work together to eliminate hatred from our own communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby proclaim April 24, 2015 as “Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day,” to commemorate the Armenian Genocide of 1915 to 1923, and in honor of Armenian-Americans, instruct the Armenian flag to be flown over Providence City Hall on April 24, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide by standing for a moment of silence at the meeting of the Council on April 2, 2015, in remembrance of all those who perished.

IN CITY COUNCIL

APR 02 2015

READ AND PASSED

  
PRES.

  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Mayor

Date: 4/13/15