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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF FRESNO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-154**

**PROCLAIM APRIL 24, 2024, AS "DAY OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE")**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Fresno joins with the Armenian community to mourn the 1.5 million innocent men, women and children that were massacred during the systematic genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923; and

**WHEREAS**, under the guise of World War I, the declining Ottoman Empire, ruled by a Turkish Government seized the opportunity to eliminate its Christian Armenian minority population as well as the Greek and Assyrian minorities living in its territories; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 24, 1915, the Turkish government began its campaign by arresting approximately 250 of the most prominent Armenian intellectuals, religious and community leaders living in Constantinople who were then either exiled or murdered; and

**WHEREAS**, a series of mass deportations forced the Armenians from their homes and sent them on death marches through the Syrian Desert, many perishing along the way, while survivors were forced to watch their loved ones be slaughtered, dumped into mass graves, crucified, burned alive, their women raped, and children kidnapped or murdered; and

**WHEREAS**, recognized as the first genocide of the 20th century, the Turkish government seized Armenian land, confiscated their property and goods, and destroyed their historical, cultural, and religious records and monuments, depriving Armenians of their past; and

**WHEREAS**, after fleeing their homeland, genocide survivors sought refuge in countries throughout the world to start new lives and rebuild Armenian communities including the United States with one of the first communities established in Fresno, California, currently home to 50,000 Americans of Armenian descent; and

**WHEREAS**, despite official recognition by the United States and 33 other countries of the atrocities committed from 1915-1923, the Turkish government continues to deny the ethnic cleansing campaign that occurred as genocide; and

**WHEREAS**, Armenians throughout the world continue to commemorate the Armenian Genocide each year, never forgetting their shared global heritage. Fresno County urges the community to take part in the observances of the 109th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at Fresno City Hall and Fresno State University.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes April 24, 2024 as a "Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide" and stands in solidarity with the Armenian community to remember those who lost their lives and those who endured unspeakable suffering.

**THE FOREGOING**, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2024, to-wit:

AYES: Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAINED: None

  
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Nathan Magsig, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno

ATTEST:  
BERNICE E. SEIDEL  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Fresno, State of California

By   
Deputy