Resolution designating April 24, 2022, as “Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day” in the City and County of San Francisco, marking the 107th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the 25th anniversary of the preservation of the Mt. Davidson Cross by the Council of Armenian American Organizations of Northern California; and urging members of Congress to support the bipartisan Armenian Genocide Education Act.

WHEREAS, The Armenian people, living in their historic homeland for thousands of years, were subjected to severe persecution by the Turkish government of the Ottoman Empire before and after the turn of the twentieth century, including widespread massacres, usurpation of land and property, and destruction of cultural institutions and monuments during the period from 1894 to 1896 and again in 1909; and

WHEREAS, The unspeakable horrors experienced by the Armenian people at the hands of the Ottoman Turkish government culminated in 1915 in what is known by historians as the first modern-era genocide; and

WHEREAS, The Ottoman Turkish authorities planned and implemented the genocide committed against the Armenian people from 1915 through 1923, resulting in the murder of 1.5 million Armenian women, men and children, and the expropriation or destruction of all their personal and community properties; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. House of Representatives adopted House Resolution No. 296 (Schiff) on October 29, 2019, which states it is U.S. policy to commemorate the Armenian Genocide and the US Senate passed Senate Resolution No. 150 (Menendez) on December 12, 2019, which formally recognizes and affirms the historical facts of the Armenian Genocide
on behalf of the U.S. government and calls for broader education on this heinous crime and its impact on generations of Armenians; and

WHEREAS, On April 24, 2021, President Joseph Biden became the first U.S. President to formally recognize the massacres of Armenians as Genocide; and

WHEREAS, California has become home to the largest and most active population of Armenians in the United States, who have enriched our state through leadership in the fields of academia, medicine, business, agriculture, government, and the arts and are proud and patriotic practitioners of American citizenship, including author William Saroyan, America’s favorite chef and philanthropist George Mardikian, and Bay Area Congressional Representatives Jackie Speier and Anna Eshoo; and

WHEREAS, The Armenian Genocide Education Act was introduce in Congress calling for $10 million to fund Armenian Genocide Education across the United States; now,

therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby designates April 24, 2022, as “Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day” in the City and County of San Francisco, marking the 107th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the 25th anniversary of the preservation of the Mt. Davidson Cross by the Council of Armenian American Organizations of Northern California; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges members of Congress to support the bipartisan Armenian Genocide Education Act; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this Resolution to the San Francisco Board of Education and the City Lobbyist, respectively, upon final passage.
Resolution designating April 24, 2022, as “Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day” in the City and County of San Francisco, marking the 107th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the 25th anniversary of the preservation of the Mt. Davidson Cross by the Council of Armenian American Organizations of Northern California; and urging members of Congress to support the bipartisan Armenian Genocide Education Act.

April 26, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/26/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board