

1 [Armenian Independence Day - September 21, 2023]  
2

3 **Resolution declaring September 21, 2023, as Armenian Independence Day in the City**  
4 **and County of San Francisco and commemorating the 32nd Anniversary of Armenian**  
5 **Independence Day on September 21, 2023.**  
6

7 WHEREAS, In 1920, the Red Army invaded the country of Armenia to establish power  
8 and marked a 70-year period of oppressive rule by the Soviet Union over the Armenian  
9 people; and

10 WHEREAS, There was growing opposition against Soviet rule in the late 1980s among  
11 Armenians; and

12 WHEREAS, Upon the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the Supreme Council of Armenia  
13 abolished Soviet rule and established the Republic of Armenia on August 23, 1990; and

14 WHEREAS, Despite the collapse of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR),  
15 many Armenians continued to be fearful of attempts of another takeover; and

16 WHEREAS, On September 21, 1990, a referendum was passed with over 90% voting  
17 in favor decreed that the Republic of Armenia be declared an independent country free of  
18 Soviet rule; and

19 WHEREAS, Armenia became the first non-Baltic republic to secede from the USSR;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Levon Ter-Petrosyan was elected the first President of the Republic of  
22 Armenia on October 16, 1991; and

23 WHEREAS, Armenian Independence Day has significant cultural meaning to in  
24 Armenia and Armenians across the diaspora; and  
25

1           WHEREAS, Armenian Independence Day represents the struggle for a free country  
2 and a free people after decades under the oppressive governance of a foreign country; and

3           WHEREAS, The United States of America officially recognized Armenian  
4 Independence on December 25, 1991; and

5           WHEREAS, The United States Department of State continues to recognize Armenian  
6 Independence Day on September 21st; and

7           WHEREAS, This year, Armenia will celebrate their 32nd anniversary of independence  
8 from the Soviet Union; and

9           WHEREAS, Armenia and Artsakh continue to face a threat to their security and  
10 survival, with Azerbaijan illegally occupying significant portions of Armenia's sovereign  
11 territory and enforcing an illegal humanitarian blockade against Artsakh's indigenous  
12 Armenian population; and

13           WHEREAS, The consequences of Azerbaijan's aggression against the Armenian  
14 people has been felt across the diaspora through targeted attacks on Armenian American  
15 community institutions in San Francisco; and

16           WHEREAS, Many Armenian Americans in the San Francisco Bay Area are direct  
17 descendants of survivors of the 1915 Armenian Genocide, the legacy of which continues to  
18 reverberate in the ongoing threats faced by the Armenian people in their ancestral lands; and

19           WHEREAS, The Armenian American community of the San Francisco Bay Area has  
20 left an indelible impact on the cultural, economic, political, and social fabric of Northern  
21 California; and

22           WHEREAS, San Francisco values all people from diverse ranges of backgrounds and  
23 experiences seeking a brighter tomorrow; now, therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors proclaims September 21,  
2 2023, as Armenian Independence Day and commemorates the 32nd anniversary of Armenian  
3 Independence on September 21, 2023; and, be it

4           FURTHER RESOLVED, The City and County of San Francisco on the anniversary of  
5 Armenia's Independence reaffirms its support for the security and sovereignty of Armenia and  
6 Artsakh in the face of Azerbaijan aggression; and, be it

7           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors recognizes the  
8 importance of celebrating Armenian Independence Day and reaffirms its support and solidarity  
9 with the Armenian community in the wake of Azerbaijan's blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh;  
10 and, be it

11           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco reiterates its  
12 condemnation of Azerbaijan's blockade of Artsakh and urges immediate action be taken to  
13 hold Azerbaijan accountable for its attempted ethnic cleansing of Artsakh's indigenous  
14 Armenian population; and, be it

15           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports efforts  
16 to deepen ties between the City and County of San Francisco and Armenia through exploring  
17 the establishment of sister city relationships.



City and County of San Francisco  
Tails  
Resolution

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 230979

Date Passed: September 19, 2023

Resolution declaring September 21, 2023, as Armenian Independence Day in the City and County of San Francisco and commemorating the 32nd Anniversary of Armenian Independence Day on September 21, 2023.

September 19, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 230979

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 9/19/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed  
Mayor

09/29/2023

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

09/29/2023

Date