File No. 170357	Committee Item No.	
	Board Item No. 13	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST				
Committee: Board of Supervisors Meeting	Date:			
Cmte Board	Letter and/or Report			
OTHER				
Prepared by: Brent Jalipa Prepared by:	Date: April 6, 2016			

[Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day - April 24, 2017]

Resolution declaring April 24, 2017, as Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, The Armenian people, living in their historic homeland of 4,000 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 systematic genocide of the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, The Ottoman Turkish authorities planned and implemented the atrocities committed against the Armenian people from 1915 through 1923, resulting in the deaths of 1.5 million Armenian women, men and children; and

WHEREAS, In response to the genocide and at the behest of President Woodrow Wilson and the U.S. State Department, the Near East Relief Organization, the first Congressionally-sanctioned American philanthropic effort created exclusively to aid the Armenian people and other Christian minorities, was founded and provided unprecedented relief, delivering more than \$117,000,000 of humanitarian assistance between 1915 and 1930, and saving approximately one million refugees, including 130,000 orphans of the genocide; and

WHEREAS, Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide" in 1944, and who was the earliest proponent of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of

the Genocide, invoked the Armenian case as a definitive example of genocide in the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, Those citizens of Turkey who speak the truth about the Armenian

Genocide – such as assassinated human rights activist and journalist Hrant Dink – continue to
be silenced by violent means and/or imprisonment, in part due to Turkish law which
criminalizes any expression which is considered to be critical of Turkish identity; and

WHEREAS, By honoring the survivors and consistently remembering and condemning the atrocities committed against the Armenian people as well as the persecution of the Assyrian and Greek populations of the Ottoman Empire, we guard against the repetition of genocide; and

WHEREAS, California has become home to the largest and most active population of Armenians in the United States, and those citizens 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; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco Armenian-Americans are predominantly descendants of the few remaining survivors of the Genocide; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is proud to join the Armenian-American community in its commemoration of the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in an effort to educate others about the tragic loss of life, land, and human rights of the Armenian people and the crime of genocide committed against them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby declares April 24, 2017 as Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

Print Form

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

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PH 1: 49 Time stamp year meeting date

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· []	1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Charter Amendment	ent)
	2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.	
	3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.	
	4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor	inquires"
	5. City Attorney request.	
	6. Call File No. from Committee.	
	7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).	
	8. Substitute Legislation File No.	
	9. Reactivate File No.	
	10. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	
	Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative	
Spons	or(s):	
Peski	n	
Subje	eet:	
Reso	lution Declaring April 24, 2017 as Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day	
The t	ext is listed below or attached:	
Resol Franc	lution declaring April 24, 2017 as Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day in the City and cisco.	County of San
	Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	
For (Clerk's Use Only:	•