File No. <u>140346</u>

Committee Item No._____ Board Item No._____*33*_____

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee

Date

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date April 15, 2014

Cmte Board

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OTHER	(Use back side if additional space is needed)

Completed by: <u>Joy Lamug</u> Completed by:_____ Date <u>April 10, 2014</u> Date

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 20 pages. The complete document is in the file.

FILE NO. 140346

RESOLUTION NO.

[Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day - April 24, 2014]

Resolution declaring April 24, 2014, as Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, The Armenian people, living in their historic homeland of 3,000 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, again in 1909; and

WHEREAS, The horrible experience of the Armenians 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 Armenian Genocide began with the arrest, exile, and murder of hundreds of Armenian intellectuals and political, religious, and business leaders, starting on April 24, 1915; and

WHEREAS, The Ottoman Turkish authorities planned and executed the unspeakable atrocities committed against the Armenian people from 1915 through 1923; 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 Genocide, invoked the Armenian case as a definitive example of genocide in the 20th century; 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

Supervisor Yee BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Assyrian and Greek populations of the Ottoman Empire, we guard against repetition of the crime 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 Armenian Genocide victims; and

WHEREAS, Those Armenian Genocide survivors who arrived in San Francisco and reestablished themselves, built a thriving community that has created churches, civic and charitable organizations, and a school, and have become an integral part of the dynamic culture of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area lost its last remaining Armenian Genocide survivor, 99 year old Takouhie Keshishian, who passed away on March 4th, 2014; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is proud to join the Armenian-American community in its commemoration of the 99th 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; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco does hereby declare April 24, 2014, as Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

Supervisor Yee BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Print Form
Introduction Form
By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor SAN FLAT SUFERVISORS
I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):
1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Charter Amendment)
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
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following: Small Business Commission Youth Commission Ethics Commission Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative Form.
Sponsor(s):
Yee
Subject:
Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day - April 24, 2014.
The text is listed below or attached:
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:
For Clerk's Use Only: