File	No.	150380	

Committee	Item No.	
Board Item	No.	46

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee:		Date
Board of Supervisors Meeting		Date April 21, 2015
Cmte Boar	· ·	eport
OTHER	(Use back side if additional space	is needed)
Completed be		ate_April 16, 2015

[Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day - April 24, 2015]

Resolution declaring April 24, 2015, as Armenian Genocide Centennial 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, 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 Ottoman Turkish authorities planned and executed the unspeakable atrocities committed against the Armenian people from 1915 through 1923, resulting in the deaths of 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children; and

WHEREAS, In response to the Genocide and at the behest of the President Woodrow Wilson and the U.S. State Department, the Near East Relief organization, the first Congressionally-sanctioned American philanthropic effort created exclusively to rescue the Armenian Nation 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

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the Genocide, invoked the Armenian case as a definitive example of genocide in the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, Those citizens of Turkey who speak the truth about the Armenian Genocide - such as assassinated human rights activist and journalist Hrant Din - 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 insulting to the 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 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, San Francisco is proud to join the Armenian-American Community in its Commemoration of the centennial 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 does hereby declare April 24, 2015, as Armenian Genocide Centennial Commemoration Day in the City and County of San Francisco.



Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	Time stamp or meeting date
1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Chart	er 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 Small Business Commission Youth Commission	to the following: Ethics Commission
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection	n Commission
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a	Imperative Form.
Sponsor(s):	
Supervisors Wiener, Yee	1
Subject:	
Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day – April 24, 2015	
The text is listed below or attached:	
Resolution declaring April 24, 2015 as Armenian Genocide Centennial Commemora of San Francisco.	tion Day in the City and County
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	ton
For Clark's Use Only	· .