AGN. NO.____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER AND JANICE HAHN

April 4, 2023

PROCLAIMING APRIL AS ARMENIAN HISTORY MONTH

Los Angeles County is home to the greatest number of Armenians outside of Armenia. Each year, during the latter part of April, this Board commemorates the Armenian Genocide that began on April 24, 1915 and resulted in the tragic loss of 1.5 million innocent lives. Since 2017, this Board has also declared the month of April as Armenian History Month in recognition of the rich history of and tremendous contributions by this resilient community.

Although our practices to celebrate Armenian History Month during the Board of Supervisors meetings have looked a bit differently during the last three years due to the pandemic, it is fitting that we return to this important tradition and honor the Armenian people.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) has also recently passed several motions related to the attacks by the Azerbaijani government against the Nagorno-Karabakh region, also known as Artsakh. In March 2021, this Board passed a motion condemning the Azerbaijani invasion into Artsakh. In September 2022, the Board passed a motion of support for H.Res.1351, condemning Azerbaijan's unprovoked military attack on Armenia, which resulted in more than 200 people being killed. And most recently, in January 2023, this Board passed a motion calling on the Federal Government to demand the immediate re-opening of the Lachin Corridor, which had been blockaded by the Azerbaijani government, blocking access and critical services to the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

The resilience of the Armenian community is still quite strong, despite historical attempts to eradicate them as a people. Let us look to the Armenian community as a testament to perseverance and what can be accomplished when a people are united. It is with great honor that we declare the month of April as Armenian History Month and have the unique opportunity to recognize and celebrate the contributions and accomplishments of the Armenian people.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim the month of April as Armenian History Month.

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