AGN. NO.____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER
AND HILDA L. SOLIS April 15, 2025

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Los Angeles County is home to the largest Armenian diaspora outside of Armenia. Each year, on April 24, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors commemorates the Armenian Genocide of 1915, which resulted in the tragic loss of 1.5 million innocent lives. Despite overwhelming historical evidence, the Turkish government continues to deny and distort the truth of the Armenian Genocide. Local, state, and federal leaders, along with international human rights organizations, have condemned these atrocities and continue to call on Turkey to acknowledge its role in this crime against humanity.

Tragically, the ethnic cleansing of Armenians did not end in 1915 and has continued in recent years. In 2020, Azerbaijan launched a military assault on Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh), followed by a ten-month-long blockade of the Lachin Corridor, cutting off over 120,000 Armenians from food, medicine, and critical supplies. In September 2023, over 100,000 Armenians were forcibly displaced from their ancestral lands, and many political leaders and civilians were taken hostage. This Board has consistently called on the Federal Government to impose sanctions on Azerbaijan for its continued human rights violations and to demand the immediate release of Armenian hostages held captive by the Azerbaijani government.

Each year, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors honors the victims of the Armenian Genocide and recognizes the resilience of the Armenian people at a Board meeting, alongside community leaders, religious figures, and elected officials. It is our duty to continue this solemn tradition and stand against genocide, ethnic cleansing, and human rights abuses wherever they occur.

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MOTION

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BARGER _____

In 2021, this Board unanimously adopted a motion urging former President Joe Biden to officially recognize the Armenian Genocide, which he did on April 24, 2021. This was a historic victory for the Armenian diaspora, achieved through decades of tireless advocacy. However, recognition alone is not enough. We must remain vigilant in the face of ongoing threats to the Armenian people and reaffirm our commitment to preventing genocide, defending human rights, and ensuring that history is never rewritten or erased.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors**:**

1. Recognize April 24, 2025 as “Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day” in Los Angeles County, and
2. Instruct the Chief Executive Officer to work with all County departments to promote events and educational materials related to the Armenian Genocide and utilize department websites and social media platforms to share information and generate awareness.

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