

As Introduced

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

S. R. No. 67

Senator Williams

Cosponsors: Senators Yuko, Patton, Skindell

A R E S O L U T I O N

Recognizing the Centennial of the Armenian
Genocide.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 131st General Assembly of Ohio recognize the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, commemorated April 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, On April 24, 1915, Ottoman authorities rounded up and arrested some two hundred fifty Armenian community leaders in Constantinople, starting a period during and after World War I in which the Ottoman Empire attempted to exterminate its minority Armenian populace. During this time, between 1 and 1.5 million Armenian people and other indigenous and Christian ethnic groups were systematically executed, and countless others fled to other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, The Armenian annihilation led Raphael Lemkin to coin the term "genocide" in 1943 to define this systematic and premeditated extermination. The Armenian diaspora around the globe marks April 24 as the date to remember the injustice done to its people starting in 1915, and in observance of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the start of the genocide, commemorations will take place across the United States, including in Cleveland, and around the world; and

WHEREAS, The Centennial of the Armenian Genocide provides

an opportunity to contemplate our individual responsibilities to humankind. We encourage all Ohioans to reflect on this brutal episode in history, for only by recognizing the hideous crimes of which mankind is capable, can we work against prejudice and hatred to ensure a future of hope and peace; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 131st General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, recognize the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and salute all those taking part in related observances across the State of Ohio; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this Resolution to the Armenian Genocide Centennial Committee of Ohio and to the news media of our state.