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LRB-4750/1 PJD:jld:kjf

2001 SENATE RESOLUTION 14

February 20, 2002 - Introduced by Senators Plache, Grobschmidt, Wirch, Welch, Burke, Darling, Roessler, Cowles and Lazich. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: designating April 24 of each year as Wisconsin Day of Remembrance 1 2 for the Armenian Genocide of 1915 to 1923. 3 Whereas, a systematic destruction of thousands of Armenian communities, 4 through massacres and death marches in which some 1,500,000 Armenians perished 5 and hundreds of thousands more were uprooted from their homes and ancient 6 homeland, was carried out from 1915 to 1923; and 7 Whereas, despite the overwhelming evidence borne out by a wealth of 8 documentation, the Turkish government has never recognized nor accepted 9 responsibility for the genocide of the Armenian people from 1915 to 1923; and 10 Whereas, by denying and trying to expunge the record of their genocide, the 11 Turkish government deprives the Armenian people of their own history; and 12 Whereas, recognition of these instances of the Turkish inhumanity to the Armenian population is crucial to guarding against the recurrence of genocide and 13

provides the Armenian people with a greater understanding of their heritage; and

Whereas, the discrimination against and the hardship of the Armenian people
persist today as fundamental freedoms are eroded through various governmental
administrative orders; and
Whereas, the differences between the Turkish and Armenian people remain

Whereas, the differences between the Turkish and Armenian people remain and even today lead to the loss of human lives and numerous violations of human rights; and

Whereas, the government of Turkey denies its Armenian community religious freedom, the right to control its own schools, the right to teach its children its own language, and the right to express its ethnic identity; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, That the senate of the state of Wisconsin hereby designates April 24 of each year as "Wisconsin Day of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide of 1915 to 1923"; and, be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Armenian Genocide Commemorative Committee, and the President of the United States.

16 (END)