

Proclamation



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Armenian Martyrs' Day April 24, 2024

- WHEREAS,** On April 24, 1915 a mass genocide of the Armenian population began in the Ottoman Turkish Empire, the first genocide in the twentieth century; and
- WHEREAS,** Armenian families were uprooted from their ancestral homeland and brutally exposed to varied indignities, resulting in more than half of the Armenian population killed; and
- WHEREAS,** I consider these atrocities against the Armenian people to be repulsive and abhorrent in civilized society; and
- WHEREAS,** All 50 states in the U.S. as well as 32 countries acknowledge the Armenian Genocide, and yet the government of Turkey will not use the word genocide; and
- WHEREAS,** Americans of Armenian descent have contributed to the quality of life in the United States and Massachusetts in the best traditions of our nation and state, in times of war and peace; and
- WHEREAS,** The Armenian citizens around the world and of the Commonwealth are dedicated to honoring the memory of the brave men and women who died; and
- WHEREAS,** Our thoughts, offered in memory of the 1.5 million Armenians lost during the genocide, will serve to remind everyone that persecution, torture, and killing must cease forever; and so
- NOW,
THEREFORE,** I, Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor of Northampton, do hereby proclaim April 24th, 2024, to be

Armenian Martyrs' Day

and further recognize this proclamation by raising the Armenian flag from April 24 to May 22, 2024, to help cultivate awareness among all residents of Northampton.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and have affixed the seal of the City of Northampton on this 24th day of April in the year of 2024.




Gina-Louise Sciarra, Mayor