



Please deliver
to: Foreign
Affairs LA

Armenian National Committee of America
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

To: Foreign Affairs LA
From: Kate Nahapetian, Government Affairs Director
Date: November 23, 2005

Re: Please cosponsor Armenian Genocide Resolution - S.Res.320

I am writing to share with you a Dear Colleague letter (attached) circulated by Senators Ensign and Durbin seeking cosponsors for a recently introduced resolution, **S.Res.320**, reaffirming the U.S. record on the Armenian Genocide.

A parallel measure in the House, H.Res.316, was overwhelmingly approved on September 15th by the International Relations Committee and has over 140 bipartisan cosponsors.

As you consider this matter, please keep in mind these two powerful statements made this week about the Armenian Genocide:

* While visiting the Armenian Genocide memorial in Armenia, Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yona Metzger told reporters after praying for the 1.5 million victims, "I would definitely use the term genocide." He added, "Nobody can feel the pain of the Armenians more deeply than we Jews."

-- *Radio Free Europe*, 11/22/05

* "Darfur is just the latest chapter in a sorry history of repeated inaction in the face of genocide, from that of Armenians, through the Holocaust, to the slaughter of Cambodians, Bosnians and Rwandans."

-- Nicholas Kristof's 11/20/05 *New York Times* column

Please feel free to contact me for more information or with any questions about **S.Res.320** at (202) 775-1918 or kate@anca.org.

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 18, 2005

Support Re-Affirmation of the U.S. Record on the Armenian Genocide

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to cosponsor a Senate resolution, which calls upon the President to ensure that U.S. foreign policy reflects our official record concerning issues of human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide relating to the Armenian Genocide.

April 2005 marked the 90th anniversary of the attempted annihilation that occurred in the Ottoman Empire from 1915-1923, in which one and a half million Armenians were killed and more than half a million more survivors were exiled.

The U.S. National Archives is replete with thousands of pages documenting the Armenian Genocide. As this crime against humanity was being committed, the United States launched an unprecedented diplomatic, political, and humanitarian campaign to end the carnage and protect the survivors.

The U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire during the Armenian Genocide, Henry Morgenthau, acting on instructions from Secretaries of State William Jennings Bryan and Robert Lansing, protested the slaughter of the Armenians to the Ottoman leaders. In a cable to the Department of State on July 16, 1915, Ambassador Morgenthau stated that "a campaign of race extermination is in progress."

By properly acknowledging the Armenian Genocide, we reaffirm the groundbreaking U.S. efforts to halt the Genocide and renew our commitment to prevent other occurrences of man's inhumanity to its fellow man.

For more information, or to cosponsor this bipartisan initiative, please contact Alexis Bayer with Senator Ensign at 4-6244 or Kevin O'Reilly with Senator Durbin at 4-2152.

Sincerely,


JOHN ENSIGN
United States Senator


RICHARD DURBIN
United States Senator