Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 23, 2007

Commemorate the Victims of the Armenian Genocide

** Cosponsor H. Res. 106 **

Dear Colleague,

Member of Congress

As co-chairs of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, we urge you to cosponsor *H. Res. 106, the Affirmation of the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide Resolution*. Between 1915 and 1923, more than 1.5 million Armenians were systematically murdered at the hands of the Young Turks, and more than 500,000 more were exiled from their native land. The U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire during this time, Henry Morgenthau, organized and led protests by officials of many countries, among them the allies of the Ottoman Empire, against the Armenian Genocide. He recognized then what we should recognize now: we cannot allow the planned elimination of an entire people to remain in the shadows of history.

April marked the 92nd Anniversary of the Genocide. It is time for our government to finally acknowledge that the unimaginable horror committed on Turkish soil in the aftermath of World War I was, and is, an act of genocide. The United States must stand up for human rights everywhere by renewing its commitment to prevent similar atrocities and by acknowledging that the Armenian Genocide is a historical fact.

Sincerely,

GUS M. BILIRAKIS Member of Congress