



HR0577

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Republic of Turkey was created on October 29,
3 1923 under the guidance of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk; on that date,
4 the Turkish Grand National Assembly proclaimed the Republic
5 that realized the aspirations of Turkish people for freedom,
6 peace, and progress in their homeland; and

7 WHEREAS, Through ambitious reforms implementing Ataturk's
8 vision of modern statehood and embracing Western values, the
9 Republic of Turkey transformed from its imperial past into the
10 world's first sustainable secular democracy with a
11 predominantly Muslim population; Turkey has also become one of
12 the fastest growing emerging markets in the world; and

13 WHEREAS, The Republic of Turkey has been a key United
14 States and NATO ally in a vital region stretching from Eastern
15 Europe and the Middle East to the Caucasus and Central Asia for
16 over 60 years; during the Korean War, over 5,000 Turkish
17 soldiers took part in combat and over 700 of them fell fighting
18 alongside American forces; Turkey has also contributed greatly
19 to the NATO and United States-led missions in Kosovo and
20 Afghanistan; with the unraveling humanitarian crisis in Syria
21 and turmoil in Egypt, Turkey's role as an influential regional
22 power and partner of the United States remains as important as
23 ever; and

1 WHEREAS, Over the past 90 years, Turkish Americans have
2 left a unique imprint on America's diverse cultural spectrum
3 and have contributed immensely to the advancement of this
4 nation in business, science, medicine, technology, and the
5 arts; and

6 WHEREAS, On October 29, 2013, over half a million Americans
7 of Turkish descent will celebrate the 90th anniversary of the
8 Republic of Turkey; it is fitting that the members of this body
9 join them in celebrating this momentous occasion; therefore, be
10 it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we commemorate the 90th anniversary of the founding of the
14 Republic of Turkey and urge the people of this State to show
15 their support for the Republic of Turkey and its people.