

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013

HR 1004

4
5 By: Representatives Barnett, Hopper
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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 RECOGNIZING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY CITIZENS
9 OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN AND THAT IT IS IN THE
10 BEST INTEREST OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS TO PROMOTE
11 RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE AZERBAIJANI PEOPLE.
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14 **Subtitle**

15 RECOGNIZING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS MADE
16 BY CITIZENS OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN
17 AND THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF
18 THE STATE OF ARKANSAS TO PROMOTE
19 RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE AZERBAIJANI
20 PEOPLE.
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23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL
24 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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27 WHEREAS, February 26, 2013, marks the 21st anniversary of the Khojaly
28 Massacre in Azerbaijan, and the observance of this somber date inspires
29 reflection by individuals across the globe; and
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31 WHEREAS, on February 25 and 26, 1992, Armenian armed forces,
32 accompanied by Russian military troops, occupied the town of Khojaly as part
33 of the bitter warfare that had been taking place in the Nagorno-Karabakh
34 region since 1988; and
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36 WHEREAS, when a large group of Azerbaijani civilians attempted to



1 evacuate the area, they were fired on by the Armenian and Russian soldiers,
2 resulting in the largest massacre of that bloody conflict; estimates of the
3 exact number of people killed vary from 160 to as many as 1,000, with many
4 women and children among the dead; and

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6 WHEREAS, the massacre was reported by major news organizations and has
7 been viewed by the Human Rights Watch as a violation of customary law
8 regarding the treatment of civilians in war zones, and numerous governments
9 around the world have condemned the attack; and

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11 WHEREAS, this tragic event is a sobering reminder of the terrible
12 carnage that can be inflicted in wartime and the enduring need for greater
13 understanding, communication, and tolerance among people the world over; and

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15 WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan and the United States of America
16 are long-standing allies, both dearly cherishing the universal values of
17 freedom, democracy, and human rights; and

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19 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas and the Republic of Azerbaijan enjoy a
20 strong, vibrant, and mutually beneficial economic relationship with the
21 prospect of further growth; and

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23 WHEREAS, it is the custom of the State of Arkansas to welcome all who
24 come to our state, especially those who come in the interest of friendship
25 and commerce; and

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27 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Arkansas House of Representatives to
28 recognize the contributions of our allies and the value of maintaining
29 beneficial relationships with the allies of the State of Arkansas, such as
30 the contributions made by the Republic of Azerbaijan and the value of our
31 positive relationship with this ally,

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33 NOW THEREFORE,

34 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL
35 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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1 THAT the House of Representatives recognizes the many contributions
2 made by the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan and that it is in the best
3 interest of the State of Arkansas to promote relationships with Azerbaijan.
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the United
6 States Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the United
7 States Senate, the Secretary of State of the United States Department of
8 State, the Arkansas Congressional Delegation, and Richard L. Morningstar, the
9 United States Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

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