



DOCUMENT

## CITY OF HAVERHILL

In Municipal Council

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## P R O C L A M A T I O N

- WHEREAS: April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1915 marked the start of a persecution of the Armenian people brought by their adherence to the cause of religious freedom and Christianity, and
- WHEREAS: This persecution caused millions of Armenians to abandon their homes and become wanderers and more than 1.5 million of these unfortunate victims perished from starvation, exposure, ruthless treatment and mass murder, and
- WHEREAS: Many Armenians migrated to the United States and enriched the American heritage with their culture, education, arts and sciences, and
- WHEREAS: The commemoration of this terrible blight on humanity at the hands of the Ottoman Empire serves to remind free people everywhere that peace and freedom from oppression should not be accepted in a casual manner but, rather, we should all give thanks for the martyrs who have gone before, who gave their lives that their culture and heritage would survive and be part of a foundation for a better society,
- WHEREAS: April 24, 2012 marks the 97th year of commemoration,

NOW THEREFORE, I, JAMES J. FIORENTINI, MAYOR of the City of Haverhill do hereby proclaim April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 as

## ARMENIAN MARTYRS' DAY

And urge all of our citizens to pay tribute to the memory of those who gave their lives in the cause of religious freedom.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Haverhill to be affixed this 8th day of April in the year of Our Lord two thousand and twelve.

MAYOR JAMES J. FIORENTINI