

First Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

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2.13.13

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LLS NO. R13-0843.01 Effie Ameen x2044

Joint Resolution

Capital Development Committee

SHORT TITLE: "Armenian Garden Replica Khachkar Approval"

COMMITTEE JOINT RESOLUTION

101 CONCERNING THE INSTALLATION OF A REPLICA KHACHKAR AND
102 EXPLANATORY PLAQUE IN THE RENOVATED ARMENIAN GARDEN
103 ON THE CAPITOL GROUNDS.

1 WHEREAS, The State Capitol and its grounds contain memorials
2 to the state's political past as well as memorabilia promoting the state's
3 natural environment and history of events, individuals, and ethnic groups;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, From time to time, proposals for gifts of art and
6 memorials are made to the state to be placed in the State Capitol or on its
7 grounds; and

8 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 92-213 directed the State Capitol

*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 Building Advisory Committee to establish criteria and a procedure for the
2 evaluation of proposals for gifts of memorials for placement in the State
3 Capitol or on its grounds; and

4 WHEREAS, The State Capitol Building Advisory Committee's
5 evaluation criteria for a memorial is based partly upon the association the
6 proposed memorial has with a significant event in the state's history, the
7 connection of the memorial with persons significant in the heritage of the
8 state, and its appropriateness to the designated area of the State Capitol;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The procedure stipulates that, if the Capital
11 Development Committee and the Governor concur with the State Capitol
12 Building Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the
13 placement of memorials on the State Capitol grounds, the Capital
14 Development Committee may make its recommendation for acceptance
15 of the donated art to the General Assembly in the form of a joint
16 resolution introduced during an annual legislative session; and

17 WHEREAS, The State Capitol Building Advisory Committee, the
18 Capital Development Committee, and the Governor have approved a plan
19 for placement of a replica khachkar and an accompanying explanatory
20 plaque in the renovated Armenian Garden on the State Capitol grounds;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, The proposed language for the explanatory plaque
23 reads as follows: "This memorial honors the victims and descendants of
24 the 1915 Armenian Genocide on the 100th anniversary of that great
25 tragedy. The genocide prompted Coloradans to come to the aid of the
26 remaining few who became known as "the starving Armenians." This
27 Armenian cultural monument is a replica of a khachkar, crafted in 1583,
28 from the medieval Armenian cemetery in Djulfa. The largest collection
29 of these intricately carved khachkars, located in the Djulfa cemetery, was
30 destroyed in 2005. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and
31 Cultural Organization has since recognized the value and vulnerability of
32 this art form by declaring it part of the intangible Cultural Heritage of
33 Humanity."; and

34 WHEREAS, The replica khachkar in the renovated Armenian
35 Garden would serve to memorialize the victims of the 1915 Armenian
36 genocide; now, therefore,

1 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly*
2 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

3 That we, the members of the General Assembly, do hereby
4 approve of the plan recommended by the State Capitol Building Advisory
5 Committee, the Capital Development Committee, and the Governor for
6 the installation of a replica khachkar with an accompanying explanatory
7 plaque in the renovated Armenian Garden.

8 *Be It Further Resolved,* That a copy of this joint resolution be
9 transmitted to the Governor, the State Capitol Building Advisory
10 Committee, the Capital Development Committee, and the Armenians of
11 Colorado Board of Directors.