

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

OF SAN FRANCISCO, THE PENINSULA, MARIN AND SONOMA COUNTIES

Beneficiary of the Jewish Community Federation

Suite 301

121 Steuart Street

San Francisco, Ca 94105

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November 21, 1989

The Right Reverend Bishop Aris Shirvanian
Armenian Apostolic Church
St. John's Etchmiadzin
275 Olympia Way
San Francisco, California 94131

Dear Bishop Shirvanian:

On behalf of the Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, the Peninsula and Marin and Sonoma Counties (JCRC), which represents over 60 synagogues and community organizations in the greater Bay Area, I wish to offer our support for Senate Joint Resolution 212, Congressional legislation to designate April 24, 1990 as a "National Day of Remembrance of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923." At our last Metropolitan JCRC meeting, a resolution was unanimously adopted to communicate to the Armenian community in San Francisco not only our support for this long overdue legislation, but for continued public education about the tragedy which befell the Armenian people in the early part of this century.

We have also written to Senators Cranston and Wilson, thanking them for their co-sponsorship of this legislation.

Nearly all nations have been victimized during the course of history. Yet being singled out for genocide is a horror that, fortunately, has been visited upon very few peoples. We in the Jewish community realize that no bill nor even official recognition of the attempt at genocide can ever truly ease the pain of that period in our history. But, for the sake of those who died and for the sake of future generations, to forget would be the ultimate tragedy. We applaud the efforts of the Armenian community to educate those in this country about "the forgotten genocide." A bill such as Senate Joint Resolution 212 is an important step in the public education about the attempts at Armenian genocide.

Please convey to the leaders of the Armenian community our most sincere support for this measure.

Sincerely,

Ephraim Margolin
Ephraim Margolin
Chairman

EM/bb

cc: Rabbi Malcolm Sparer, President
Northern California Board of Rabbis