
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 171 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY MURT, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, DENLINGER,
GINGRICH, HENNESSEY, HESS, KORTZ, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, READSHAW
AND SONNEY, MARCH 18, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 18, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 21st anniversary of the Khojaly Massacre and
2 honoring the life and memory of the victims of this horrific
3 tragedy.

4 WHEREAS, February 26, 2013, marked the 21st anniversary of
5 the Khojaly Massacre in Azerbaijan and the observance of this
6 tragic date inspires reflection by individuals across the globe;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, On February 25 and 26, 1992, Armenian armed forces,
9 accompanied by Russian military troops, attacked and occupied
10 the besieged town of Khojaly as part of the armed aggression and
11 ethnic cleansing that had been taking place in the Nagorno-
12 Karabakh region of Azerbaijan since 1988; and

13 WHEREAS, When the residents of the town attempted to flee the
14 area, they were fired on by the Armenian and Russian troops,
15 resulting in the largest massacre of the Nagorno-Karabakh
16 conflict; and

17 WHEREAS, It is estimated that 613 civilians were killed, 150

1 civilians went missing, 487 civilians were wounded and 1,270
2 civilians were taken hostage; and

3 WHEREAS, The massacre was reported by major news
4 organizations and has been viewed by the Human Rights
5 Watch/Helsinki organization as a violation of customary law
6 regarding the treatment of civilians in war zones; and

7 WHEREAS, This tragic event is a sobering reminder of the
8 terrible carnage that can be inflicted in wartime and the
9 enduring need for greater understanding, communication and
10 tolerance among people; and

11 WHEREAS, The U.S. Azeris Network coordinates with
12 Azerbaijani-American communities to educate others about
13 important events in the history of Azerbaijan; and

14 WHEREAS, The U.S. Azeris Network plays a pivotal role in
15 preserving the memory of this terrible tragedy and through its
16 efforts, the legacy of those who died will never be forgotten;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, It is fitting to honor the lives and memories of the
19 victims of this horrific tragedy; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
21 21st anniversary of the Khojaly Massacre and honor the life and
22 memory of the victims of this horrific tragedy; and be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
25 the United States Department of State, the United States embassy
26 in Azerbaijan and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.