Cosponsor H.Res. 296 Recognizing the Armenian Genocide

October 22, 2019

Dear Colleague,

Between 1915 and 1923, 1.5 million Armenians and hundreds of thousands of Greeks, Assyrians, Chaldeans, Syriacs, Arameans, Maronites, and other Christians were brutally and systematically slaughtered at the hands of the Ottoman Empire. Members of my own family were among those murdered. My mother escaped with my grandmother from Armenia, and my father, an Assyrian Christian, was driven from the Middle East. Both carried the terror of the atrocities of the Ottoman Turks for a lifetime.

The Armenian Genocide was the first genocide of the 20th century and despite overwhelming evidence documenting this dark chapter in human history, the Republic of Turkey has denied its existence and has worked to whitewash the past and pressure U.S. policymakers to refrain from using the term 'genocide' to describe the deliberate annihilation of 1.5 million Armenians and other minorities. Congress has the opportunity to rise to the occasion and correct this injustice and do what 49 U.S. states and 14 NATO Allies have already done: formally recognize the murder of 1.5 million Armenians by the Ottoman Empire as genocide.

As the only Armenian-Assyrian Member of Congress, I urge you to honor the countless individuals who were taken and join 112 of your colleagues in cosponsoring H.Res. 296, a bipartisan resolution formally recognizing the Armenian Genocide. If you would like to cosponsor, you can contact Matt McMurray of my staff at (202) 225-8104.

Most Gratefully,

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress