HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 436

Offered by Representatives Scott, Smrkon, Crim and Conroy

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE THE
100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATURK

WHEREAS, It is a pleasure for the members of the Michigan House of Representatives to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder and first President of the Turkish Republic. We join with people throughout Michigan, and in particular, the men and women of the Turkish-American community, to celebrate the life and legacy of this outstanding statesman; and

WHEREAS, Born in 1881, Mustafa Kemal decided at an early age to devote his life to the military. He proved his ability and courage in numerous campaigns prior to and during World War I. In the early 1920s, after a series of major victories against invading armies from many countries, Mustafa Kemal led his country to freedom. By 1923, Turkey emerged from the ruins of the Ottoman Empire and joined the world community as an independent country. Turkey’s new status was, in large part, the result of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk’s steadfast efforts, indomitable courage, and strong leadership; and

WHEREAS, As President of the Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal advocated reforms which brought the country rapid economic growth, free education for all, women’s rights, and advanced technology and culture. While totally dedicated to modernizing the country, he was careful to preserve the cultural heritage of Turkey and treasured its arts, history, and literature. Moreover, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk’s vision of peace and unity extended beyond Turkey’s borders and led him to work for world peace, international understanding, and respect for human rights. Today, Turkey’s adherence to that resolve is evident in its continued participation in the international peacekeeping organization, the United Nations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk be commemorated by the people of Michigan in recognition of his contributions to peace and harmony among nations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to an appropriate representative of the Turkish community in the United States as evidence of the respect held for Mustafa Kemal Ataturk by the members of this legislative body and the people of Michigan.

Adopted by the House of Representatives, February 23, 1982