WHEREAS, October 29, 1999, marks the anniversary of the emergence of the Turkish Republic from the Ottoman Empire; and

WHEREAS, over the last 76 years the Turkish Republic has become a nation symbolizing peace, stability, democracy, secularism, and economic progress in a region of the world that is still striving for such values; and

WHEREAS, a government who is accountable to the people constitutes the cornerstones of Turkish Democracy making the Republic of Turkey the only secular country in the Islamic world; and

WHEREAS, The Republic of Turkey is one of the ten largest emerging markets, the 16th largest economy, and has become the second largest trading partner with United States; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan wishes to recognize and celebrate the common goals and ideals of the Republic of Turkey and the United States, and to reaffirm the partnership between the two nations, especially when promoting peace and security in the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Engler, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby declare October 29, 1999, as TURKISH REPUBLIC DAY in Michigan, and I urge all citizens to join with me and our citizens of Turkish descent in recognizing this historic observance and to recognize the sacrifices made by the people of Turkey in their pursuit of freedom and democracy.

Given under my hand on this twenty-seventh day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine and of the Commonwealth one hundred and sixty-two.

[Signature]
Governor