Whereas, On October 29, 1923, the Republic of Turkey was founded by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk; and,

Whereas, Turkey is the only secular democracy in the Muslim world and has been an ally of the United States for over five decades, making significant contributions and sacrifices for global peace, stability and prosperity; and,

Whereas, Turkey continues to make significant contributions side-by-side with the United States to restore and preserve peace in the Balkans, the Middle East, Central Asia and the Caucasus; and,

Whereas, Turkey was one of the first allies to show unconditional solidarity with the United States in the war against terrorism and has thrice commanded the International Peacekeeping Forces in Afghanistan; and,

Whereas, Americans of Turkish descent in the state of Michigan have played a significant role in the educational, cultural, economic and civic development of our community through sharing their rich cultural heritage and through their dedication to the responsibilities of good citizenship; and,

Whereas, All Turks and Turkish Americans will be celebrating Turkish Republic Day on October 29, 2007; and now therefore be it,

Resolved, That I, Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby proclaim October 29, 2007, as Turkish Republic Day in Michigan. In honor of the observance of this day, I encourage all multicultural communities to join Michigan's Turkish community in celebration with appropriate activities and observances.

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor