On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, do hereby proclaim October 29, 2010, Turkish Republic Day.

Whereas, On October 29, 1923, the Republic of Turkey (Turkey) was founded by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk and is the only secular democracy in the Muslim world; and,

Whereas, As an ally of the United States for over five decades, Turkey has made 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 commanded the International Peacekeeping Forces in Afghanistan; and,

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

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, That I, Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby proclaim October 29, 2010, Turkish Republic Day in Michigan in observance of the founding of the Republic of Turkey.