H.R. No. 565

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, February 26, 2013, marks the 21st anniversary of the 2 Khojaly Massacre in Azerbaijan, and the observance of this somber 3 date inspires reflection by individuals across the globe; and

WHEREAS, On February 25 and 26, 1992, Armenian armed forces, accompanied by Russian military troops, occupied the town of Khojaly as part of the bitter warfare that had been taking place in the Nagorno-Karabakh region since 1988; and

8 WHEREAS, When a large group of Azerbaijani civilians 9 attempted to evacuate the area, they were fired on by the Armenian 10 and Russian soldiers, resulting in the largest massacre of that 11 bloody conflict; estimates of the exact number of people killed 12 vary from 160 to as many as 1,000, with many women and children 13 among the dead; and

14 WHEREAS, The massacre was reported by major news been organizations and has viewed by the Human 15 Rights 16 Watch/Helsinki organization as a violation of customary law regarding the treatment of civilians in war zones; moreover, 17 numerous governments around the world have condemned the attack; 18 and 19

20 WHEREAS, This tragic event is a sobering reminder of the 21 terrible carnage that can be inflicted in wartime and the enduring 22 need for greater understanding, communication, and tolerance among 23 people the world over; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas

H.R. No. 5651 Legislature hereby commemorate the 21st anniversary of the Khojaly2 Massacre in Azerbaijan.

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 565 was adopted by the House on March 7, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House