

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan and  
2 individuals of Azerbaijani descent around the world are celebrating  
3 the nation's 97th Republic Day on May 28, 2015; and

4           WHEREAS, The Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan was  
5 established after the fall of imperial Russia in 1918; this  
6 groundbreaking new state gave women the right to vote and was a  
7 thriving independent Muslim democracy for two years; despite the  
8 valiant efforts of many brave Azerbaijanis, the young nation was  
9 overtaken during the Bolshevik Revolution in 1920 and remained  
10 under Soviet control for seven decades until the collapse of the  
11 U.S.S.R. in 1991; Azerbaijanis and the Republic of Azerbaijan will  
12 celebrate 24 years of independence in October 2015; and

13           WHEREAS, A strong friend of the United States, Azerbaijan is  
14 a stable democracy in a geopolitically important and often  
15 turbulent region between Europe and Asia; with a predominantly  
16 Muslim population, this secular democracy is also home to vibrant  
17 Christian and Jewish communities; and

18           WHEREAS, Azerbaijan has assisted with American military  
19 engagements in Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan; moreover, as a key  
20 supporter of regional stability and an ally in the fight against  
21 terrorism, Azerbaijan aided the United States following September  
22 11th and has served as a crucial transit route for U.S. and NATO  
23 operations in the region; in addition, the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan  
24 pipeline, which has the capacity to transport one million barrels

1 of oil a day, benefits the world's energy security; and

2 WHEREAS, With a recognized presence in Houston, the  
3 Azerbaijani-American community contributes to regional diversity  
4 and strives to promote intercultural understanding, peace, and  
5 prosperity; and

6 WHEREAS, For more than nine decades, this historic day has  
7 provided hope and inspiration to all those who cherish freedom and  
8 self-determination, and it is a pleasure to join with Azerbaijanis  
9 around the world to celebrate their country's history as well as its  
10 notable developments since regaining independence; now, therefore,  
11 be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby commemorate Azerbaijan's 97th Republic Day on  
14 May 28, 2015, and honor the important relationship between the  
15 United States and the Republic of Azerbaijan on this significant  
16 occasion.

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H.R. No. 3257

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 3257 was adopted by the House on May 30, 2015, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House