

By: Vo

H.R. No. 3257

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.