

By: Murphy

H.R. No. 535

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, February 26, 2011, marks the 19th anniversary of the
2 Khojaly Massacre in Azerbaijan, and the observance of this somber
3 date inspires reflection by individuals across the globe; and

4 WHEREAS, On February 25 and 26, 1992, Armenian armed forces,
5 accompanied by Russian military troops, occupied the town of
6 Khojaly as part of the bitter warfare that had been taking place in
7 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
15 organizations and has been viewed by the Human Rights
16 Watch/Helsinki organization as a violation of customary law
17 regarding the treatment of civilians in war zones; moreover,
18 numerous governments around the world have condemned the attack;
19 and

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

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas

H.R. No. 535

1 Legislature hereby commemorate the 19th anniversary of the Khojaly
2 Massacre in Azerbaijan.