

STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

Executive Order

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS, the Genocide of the Greek population in the Pontos Region on the Northern Coast of Asia Minor (present day Turkey), a tragedy took the lives of 353,000 Greeks from 1914-1923; and
- WHEREAS, those Greeks, whose ancestors had lived in Asia Minor for three millennia, were targeted by the Turkish authorities for expulsion along with Armenians and Assyrians, and from 1914-1923 the Greek population of Pontos endured immeasurable cruelty during a Turkish government-sanctioned campaign to displace them, thus depriving Greeks of Pontos, Kappadokia, Ionia and eastern Thrace of their ancestral homelands and the very right of existence; and
- WHEREAS, 353,000 Pontians Greeks died while being forcibly marched without provisions across the Anatolian plains to the Syrian border, these 500,000 who survived were forced into exile from Turkey, and today they and their decedents live throughout the Greek Diaspora in the United States, including Indiana; and
- WHEREAS, the history of the Pontain Greek Genocide offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and
- WHEREAS, we the people of the State of Indiana recognizes the terrible events of the Pontain Greek Genocide and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and
- WHEREAS, we the people of the State of Indiana should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and
- WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the State of Indiana to remember the victims of the Pontain Greek Genocide as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael R. Pence, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim
May 19, 2015 as a

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

in memory of the victims of the Pontain Greek Genocide and invite all citizens to duly not this occasion.

*In Testimony Whereof, I hereto
set my hand and cause to be affixed the
Great Seal of State. Done at the
City of Indianapolis, this 20th
day of October in the year of our
Lord 2014 and of the Independence
of the United States 238.*

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Michael R. Pence

