

Senate Resolution 983

By: Senator James of the 35th

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring and recognizing the Nagorno Karabakh Republic; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Nagorno Karabakh Republic has a long and storied history, holding a  
3 cherished place in the Armenian people's history and culture; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the Nagorno Karabakh Republic declared its independence on December 10,  
5 1991, after a long struggle that, in some respects, continues to this day; and the persistent  
6 demand for self-determination was an inspiration to people of many nationalities in the  
7 region, becoming one of the catalysts for the breakup of the former Soviet Union; and
- 8 WHEREAS, through the course of the last two decades, the people of the Nagorno Karabakh  
9 Republic have shown tenacity and perseverance in the face of war, massacres, economic  
10 deprivation, and other tremendous hardships; and
- 11 WHEREAS, for more than 20 years, the Nagorno Karabakh Republic has stayed true and  
12 faithful to its citizens by remaining independent while working to bring change and stability  
13 to the Caucasus region and by holding free and fair elections and referendums that were  
14 widely declared as a model for the region; and
- 15 WHEREAS, international observers, including the United States, assessed the May 3, 2015,  
16 parliamentary elections in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic as free and transparent.
- 17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
18 honor the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and its citizens; recognize the sacrifices, dedication,  
19 and resolve shown by the people of the Republic in the face of extreme adversity; extend best  
20 wishes for peace, prosperity, and continuing success; and encourage the international  
21 community to give appropriate recognition to the Nagorno Karabakh Republic as a free,  
22 independent, and sovereign democracy.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
24 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Nagorno  
25 Karabakh Republic.