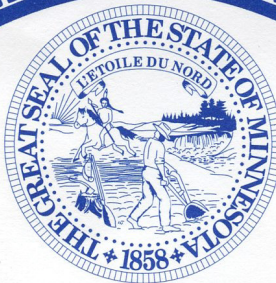


MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE



A House resolution

recognizing the importance and contributions of the
Ecumenical Patriarchate

WHEREAS, the Ecumenical Patriarchate, led by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, is the 269th in direct succession to the Apostle Andrew; and

WHEREAS, the Orthodox Christian Church, in existence for nearly 2,000 years, numbers approximately 300 million members worldwide with more than two million members in the United States; and

WHEREAS, this religious coexistence is in jeopardy because the Ecumenical Patriarchate is being persecuted by various factions within the Turkish government; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that the current Turkish government has continued to negotiate and publicly address these and other related issues with a commitment to their resolution in a manner acceptable to all interested parties; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota has a significant population of Greek Orthodox parishioners, with citizens in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, and Rochester; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration of the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota that it recognizes the importance of the Government of Turkey upholding and safeguarding religious and human rights without compromise, including granting the Ecumenical Patriarchate appropriate international recognition, ecclesiastic succession, and the right to train clergy of all nationalities, and respecting the property rights and human rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Dated: June 18, 2018

Kurt Daudt, Speaker
Minnesota House of Representatives

Joyce Peppin, Chair
Rules and Legislative Administration

Ron Kresha
State Representative

