

# Hall of the House of Representatives

90th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2015

## Amendment Form

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### Subtitle of House Resolution No. 1042

TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PRESERVE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, FREE MEDIA, AND DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES IN TURKEY.

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### Amendment No. 1 to House Resolution No. 1042

Amend House Resolution No. 1042 as originally introduced:

Add Representative G. McGill as a cosponsor of the resolution

AND

Delete the title in its entirety and substitute:

"TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PRESERVE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, FREE MEDIA, AND DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES IN TURKEY; AND TO RECOGNIZE TURKISH-AMERICAN CITIZENS' ENDEAVORS TO IMPROVE TIES BETWEEN THE GREAT STATE OF ARKANSAS AND TURKEY."

AND

Delete the subtitle in its entirety and substitute:

"TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PRESERVE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, FREE MEDIA, AND DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES IN TURKEY; AND TO RECOGNIZE TURKISH-AMERICAN CITIZENS' ENDEAVORS TO IMPROVE TIES BETWEEN THE GREAT STATE OF ARKANSAS AND TURKEY."

AND

Page 1, delete lines 34-36, and substitute the following:

"WHEREAS, the recent arrests of members of the Turkish media, media owners, and prominent journalists including Mr. Hidayet Karaca, CEO of Samanyolu Media Group, who has been jailed without any indictment since December 14, 2014, and prominent journalist Mr. Mehmet Baransu because of his investigative reports on military coup plans as recent as 2007, among many



others, are alarming; and

WHEREAS, detained members of Turkish media have ties to a known critic of President Erdogan's Administration; and

WHEREAS, recent arrests have had a chilling effect on freedom, democracy, and economic prosperity for all of Turkey; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ekrem Dumanli, editor-in-chief of Zaman newspaper, was detained and released on questionable charges, and Ms. Sedef Kabas was detained and released because of her tweets criticizing antidemocratic tendencies of the Turkish government; and

WHEREAS, a free media must be supported and protected to foster an environment open to constructive political discussion and to ensure freedom of expression; and

WHEREAS, a vibrant and dedicated Turkish-American community in Arkansas has been very active and involved in cultivating and promoting strong economic, educational, and social ties for the best interests of the State of Arkansas between Turkey and the United States,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives of the Ninetieth General Assembly strongly urges the Turkish government to abandon its course of intimidation, embrace a free media, and tolerate dissenting voices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy be provided to United States Secretary of State John Kerry, United States Senator John Boozman, and United States Senator Tom Cotton by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives."

AND

Page 2 delete lines 2-15.

The Amendment was read \_\_\_\_\_

By: Representative D. Ferguson  
DLP/DLP - 03-11-2015 09:42:41  
DLP219

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk