

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 392

Urging the Republic of Turkey to safeguard its Christian heritage and to return confiscated church properties.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2012

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. KIRK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Urging the Republic of Turkey to safeguard its Christian heritage and to return confiscated church properties.

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the  
2 Secretary of State, in all official contacts with officials and  
3 representatives of the Government of Turkey, should em-  
4 phasize that the Government of Turkey should—

5           (1) end all forms of religious discrimination;

6           (2) allow the rightful church and lay owners of  
7 Christian church properties, without hindrance or  
8 restriction, to organize and administer prayer serv-  
9 ices, religious education, clerical training, appoint-  
10 ments, and succession, religious community gath-

1       erings, social services, including ministry to the  
 2       needs of the poor and infirm, and other religious ac-  
 3       tivities;

4           (3) return to their rightful owners all Christian  
 5       churches and other places of worship, monasteries,  
 6       schools, hospitals, monuments, relics, holy sites, and  
 7       other religious properties, including movable prop-  
 8       erties, such as artwork, manuscripts, vestments, ves-  
 9       sels, and other artifacts; and

10          (4) allow the rightful Christian church and lay  
 11       owners of Christian church properties, without hin-  
 12       drance or restriction, to preserve, reconstruct, and  
 13       repair, as they see fit, all Christian churches and  
 14       other places of worship, monasteries, schools, hos-  
 15       pitals, monuments, relics, holy sites, and other reli-  
 16       gious properties within Turkey.

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