

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 392

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

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

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.

○