



Legislation Text

File #: 05-2637, **Version:** 1

Recommendation to adopt a Proclamation commemorating the 30-year anniversary of the Killing Fields and to recognize April 17th as a Day of Mourning.

Long Beach is home to many Cambodians who sought refuge from an auto-genocide historically known as the Killing Fields. The atrocities of the Killing Fields began on April 17, 1975 when the Khmer Rouge, a communist guerrilla group, took power in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge, led by Pol Pot, forced all city dwellers into the countryside and to labor camps. During their rule, it is estimated that 2 million Cambodians died by starvation, torture, or execution. This represented approximately 30% of the Cambodian population during that time. Cambodia was devastated during the Khmer Rouge years and the country is still faced with the daunting task of healing physically, mentally, and economically.

The scars of the Khmer Rouge massacres are borne by survivors and the families of victims living in Long Beach and throughout the world. We ask the City of Long Beach to join the international community in commemorating the 30-year anniversary of the Killing Fields and to declare April as a day of mourning.

[Timing Considerations]

[Fiscal Impact]

Approve recommendation.

[Enter Body Here]

[Respectfully Submitted,]