



# Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, TN

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** RS2023-1975, **Version:** 1

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A resolution celebrating the unveiling of a historical marker to honor Kurdish Americans in Nashville and Davidson County.

WHEREAS, Nashville is home to the largest population of Kurdish people in the United States, with many people calling Nashville “Little Kurdistan”; and

WHEREAS, Kurdish immigrants have settled in Nashville since at least the 1970s and it is estimated that there are over 20,000 Kurds living in Nashville today; and

WHEREAS, Kurds fleeing horrific genocide and seeking refuge from political persecution have found a welcoming home and sense of community in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, while many Kurds practice Islam, there are Kurds of many faiths who reside in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, the Salahadeen Center was founded in 1998 and is widely considered to be the first Kurdish mosque in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of its large Kurdish American population, Nashville is also seeking to become a Sister City to Erbil, the capital and largest populated city in the Kurdistan region of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Nashville will formally recognize its Kurdish American population with a new historical marker which will be unveiled on Saturday, January 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the ceremony for this historical marker begins at 9:00 am at Salahadeen Center of Nashville with the unveiling of the marker to follow at 3904 Nolensville Pike; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Metropolitan Council honor its Kurdish American population and the rich history and significant contribution of Kurdish Americans who call Nashville and Davidson County home.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:**

Section 1. That the Metropolitan County Council hereby goes on record as celebrating the unveiling of a historical marker to honor Kurdish Americans in Nashville and Davidson County. This historical marker will be placed at 3904 Nolensville Pike in the heart of Little Kurdistan. The unveiling ceremony will occur on Saturday, January 21, 2023, beginning at 9:00 am at Salahadeen Center of Nashville.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.