

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 543

Designating March 10, 2022, as “National ‘Slam the Scam’ Day” to raise awareness about pervasive government imposter scams, and to promote education to prevent government imposter scams.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 10 (legislative day, MARCH 7), 2022

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. KELLY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating March 10, 2022, as “National ‘Slam the Scam’ Day” to raise awareness about pervasive government imposter scams, and to promote education to prevent government imposter scams.

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals in the United States are targeted by government imposter scams each year, including Social Security-related and Internal Revenue Service-related government imposter scams;

Whereas government imposter scams involve scammers contacting individuals in the United States and impersonating employees of government agencies, such as the Social Security Administration, to demand payment or personal information, which defrauds individuals of the

United States and erodes trust in the government agencies that the scammers impersonate;

Whereas, since 2013, the fraud hotline of the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate has received more than 10,000 complaints from individuals in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, of which one-third were reporting possible government imposter scams;

Whereas there were nearly 400,000 government imposter scams reported to the Federal Trade Commission in 2021;

Whereas the Federal Trade Commission has estimated that victims lost over \$442,000,000 in government imposter scams in 2021;

Whereas, according to the Federal Trade Commission, in 2021, older adults reported larger median individual losses as a result of government imposter scams than younger adults;

Whereas, according to the Federal Trade Commission, in 2021, individuals in the United States reported losing \$23,150,000 to Social Security-related imposter scams;

Whereas, in 2021, Social Security-related imposter scams represented the largest category of complaints received by the fraud hotline of the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate; and

Whereas increased awareness of, and education about, government imposter scams help to thwart government imposter scammers: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) designates March 10, 2022, as “National
2 ‘Slam the Scam’ Day”;

3 (2) recognizes National “Slam the Scam” Day
4 as an opportunity to raise awareness about scams
5 that involve individuals impersonating government
6 employees by any means, including by mail, tele-
7 phone, electronic mail, or internet websites (referred
8 to in this resolving clause as “government imposter
9 scams”);

10 (3) recognizes that law enforcement agencies,
11 consumer protection groups, telephone companies,
12 area agencies on aging, and financial institutions all
13 play vital roles in—

14 (A) preventing government imposter scams
15 from targeting the people of the United States;
16 and

17 (B) educating the people of the United
18 States about government imposter scams;

19 (4) encourages—

20 (A) the implementation of policies to pre-
21 vent government imposter scams; and

22 (B) the improvement of measures to pro-
23 tect the people of the United States from gov-
24 ernment imposter scams;

25 (5) encourages members of the public to—

1 (A) ignore solicitations from individuals
2 falsely claiming to represent government agen-
3 cies;

4 (B) share information about government
5 imposter scams with family and friends; and

6 (C) report government imposter scams
7 to—

8 (i) the Office of the Inspector General
9 of the Social Security Administration;

10 (ii) the Treasury Inspector General
11 for Tax Administration; or

12 (iii) the Federal Trade Commission;

13 and

14 (6) honors the commitment and dedication of
15 the individuals and organizations that work tirelessly
16 to fight against government imposter scams.

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