

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 532—RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MEDICOLEGAL DEATH INVESTIGATION PROFESSIONALS WEEK

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 532

Whereas the Senate is committed to the use of highly trained medicolegal death investigation professionals to ensure that the suspicious, violent, unattended, unexplained, and unexpected deaths that occur throughout the United States are investigated;

Whereas medicolegal death investigation professionals are an indispensable component of the public health and public safety systems in the United States as they speak for those who can no longer speak for themselves;

Whereas medicolegal death investigation professionals partner with—

(1) local and national agencies to build and maintain public health databases relating to injury, illness, disease; and

(2) Federal, State, and local agencies to ensure public safety;

Whereas medicolegal death investigation professionals aim to complete the highest quality medicolegal death investigations through national standards; and

Whereas the week of January 21, 2024, through January 27, 2024, is recognized as “National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week; and

(2) recognizes that National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week provides a special opportunity for—

(A) medicolegal death investigation professionals to—

(i) acknowledge the contributions of medicolegal death investigation professionals working throughout the jurisdictions of the United States;

(ii) organize community events to encourage a better understanding of medicolegal death investigations;

(iii) provide tours to Federal, State, and local policymakers to assist those individuals in gaining better insight into the current capabilities of medicolegal death investigation professionals and the future demands that medicolegal death investigation professionals will face; and

(iv) contact and invite local media outlets to cover events hosted during National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week;

(B) local policymakers to—

(i) recognize, through formal commendation or resolution, the contributions of local medicolegal death investigation professionals to the communities of those policymakers;

(ii) formally declare the week of January 21, 2024, through January 27, 2024, to be “National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week”;

(iii) visit local medicolegal death investigation professionals in their jurisdictions to gain an understanding of the capabilities and needs of those jurisdictions; and

(iv) discuss the operational needs of State and local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions;

(C) individuals in the United States, including members of the media, to—

(i) attend community events sponsored by local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions;

(ii) take tours of local medical examiner and coroner offices; and

(iii) ask local medical examiner and coroner offices about the operational and legislative needs of those jurisdictions;

(D) members of the media to highlight local news stories that focus on the work of local medicolegal death investigation professionals in the communities they serve; and

(E) public safety officers, law enforcement officers, and court officers to—

(i) attend community events sponsored by local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions;

(ii) take tours of local medical examiner and coroner offices;

(iii) discuss the operational needs of State and local medicolegal death investigation jurisdictions; and

(iv) engage with local medicolegal death investigation professionals about working together more effectively.

SENATE RESOLUTION 533—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JANUARY 21 THROUGH 27, 2024, AS “NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS WEEK”

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. KING, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 533

Whereas National Board Certification is based on rigorous standards developed by teachers for teachers to demonstrate the ability of teachers to advance student learning and achievement;

Whereas research shows that students taught by National Board Certified Teachers learn more, especially in the case of low-income students;

Whereas National Board Certified Teachers often positively amplify their expertise by serving in leadership roles as teacher mentors, principals, administrators, and district leaders;

Whereas National Board Certified Teachers rank National Board Certification as their most important ongoing formal education, above graduate-level coursework and other training programs;

Whereas National Board Certified Teachers are among the thousands of educators around the United States who play a critical role in addressing the learning loss incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas 29 States provide salary incentives for National Board Certified Teachers, including 13 States that prioritize incentives in high-needs schools;

Whereas 44 percent of National Board Certified Teachers serve students in schools receiving support under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.);

Whereas, in 2023, 3,527 teachers earned their National Board Certification for the first time and 6,697 teachers successfully maintained their certification, benefitting thousands of students across the country; and

Whereas, as of January 2024, there are a total of 137,015 teachers who have achieved National Board Certification: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of January 21 through 27, 2024, as “National Board Certified Teacher Week”;

(2) recognizes the importance and contributions of National Board Certified Teachers to student learning and achievement; and

(3) encourages educators, administrators, school districts, and States—

(A) to promote the growth of new National Board Certified Teachers; and

(B) to provide the necessary incentives and support to candidates for National Board Certification.

SENATE RESOLUTION 534—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF JANUARY AS “MUSLIM-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH” AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF MUSLIM AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 534

Whereas the Senate is proud to recognize and commemorate “Muslim-American Heritage Month”, an observance that celebrates the contributions of Muslim Americans;

Whereas, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, the Senate recognizes and pays tribute to those who foster cultural pride and enhance the profile of diverse communities across the United States;

Whereas immigration of Muslims to the American colonies began with the arrival of indentured workers;

Whereas, during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, a significant number of slaves of Muslim heritage were brought to the United States;

Whereas, in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, successive waves of immigration brought additional Muslims to the United States, who sought to pursue economic and social opportunity, as well as freedom of religion, and enriched the fabric of the society of the United States as business owners, entrepreneurs, health care professionals, humanitarians, scientists, and students;

Whereas Muslim Americans contribute greatly to charitable organizations that help people from all faiths in the United States and around the world by providing medical assistance, family services, and scholastic supplies, running before- and after-school programs, feeding the hungry, and providing recuperation efforts following natural disasters;

Whereas Muslim Americans have contributed to every part of the society of the United States by making advancements in architecture, arts, business, culture, government, law, medicine, the military, religion, and sports;

Whereas Bangladeshi-American Fazlur Rahman Khan left his mark on the cityscapes of the United States by pioneering a new structural system of frame tubes used to construct iconic buildings like the World Trade Center in New York City, New York, the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the Willis “Sears” Tower in Chicago, Illinois;

Whereas many Muslim Americans pursue the American dream and contribute to the

economy of the United States as business owners and entrepreneurs, including Pakistani-born billionaire Shahid Khan, owner of the auto-parts company Flex-N-Gate and the National Football League's Jacksonville Jaguars;

Whereas Syrian immigrant Ernest Hamwi's invention of the ice cream cone is a practical confection with a near ubiquitous presence in the life of the people of the United States;

Whereas, in 2006, Keith Ellison of Minnesota was elected to the House of Representatives, becoming the first Muslim American to serve in Congress;

Whereas, in 2008, Ambassador Sada Cumber was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as the first Special Envoy to the Organization of the Islamic Conference from the United States, representing the United States to 57 Muslim-majority nations;

Whereas actor Mahershala Ali became the first Muslim American to win an Oscar for his supporting role in "Moonlight" in 2017;

Whereas, in 2018, Rashida Tlaib of Michigan and Ilhan Omar of Minnesota were elected to the House of Representatives, becoming the first Muslim-American women to serve in Congress;

Whereas, in 2021, Zahid Quraishi was confirmed as the first Muslim American to serve as an article III Federal judge as a district judge of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey;

Whereas, in 2021, Rashad Hussain was confirmed as the first Muslim American to serve as the United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom;

Whereas Pakistani-American neurosurgeon Ayub Ommaya's invention of the intraventricular catheter system provides chemotherapy to treat brain tumors;

Whereas Muslim Americans have fought in support of the United States in every major war, from Bampett Muhamed and Yusuf Ben Ali under the command of General George Washington in the American Revolutionary War, to Captain Humayun Khan, who made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq in 2004;

Whereas Imam Warith Deen Mohammed, the first Muslim American to deliver the invocation for the Senate, and El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, the civil rights activist and reformer also known as Malcolm X, were prominent religious leaders and scholars;

Whereas Muslim-American professional athletes like Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame members Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Hakeem Olajuwon, and Shaquille O'Neal and 2-time world heavyweight champion Hasim Shariff Rahman thrilled sports fans across the United States and around the globe during their respective careers;

Whereas Muslim-American Olympians, such as boxer Muhammad Ali, track and field athlete Dalilah Muhammad, and fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad, won medals in international competitions;

Whereas, with roots in at least 77 different countries and identifying racially as White, Black, Arab, and Asian, Muslim Americans are an extremely diverse population;

Whereas the current population of Muslims living in the United States is estimated at over 3,450,000 individuals;

Whereas over 4,500 Muslims serve on active duty, and over 2,300 Muslims serve as selected reserve personnel in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the Muslim population has been growing in the United States, and today's Muslim-American population is a tapestry of ethnic, racial, linguistic, social, and economic groups;

Whereas nearly 50 percent of Muslim Americans have reported experiencing religious discrimination, with that number rising to 64 percent for Muslim Americans

whose appearance identifies them as Muslim, such as women who wear the hijab or headscarf;

Whereas there is a need for public education, awareness, and policies that help people be culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts that Muslim Americans have on all aspects of the society of the United States;

Whereas "Muslim-American Heritage Month" will be observed in the month of January; and

Whereas the incredible contributions and heritage of Muslim Americans have helped to build a better United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of "Muslim-American Heritage Month";

(2) honors the contributions and integral role of Muslim Americans in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe "Muslim-American Heritage Month" with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities that celebrate the contributions of Muslim Americans to the United States.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I have three requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JANUARY 21 THROUGH 27, 2024, AS "NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS WEEK"

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 533, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 533) expressing support for the designation of January 21 through 27, 2024, as "National Board Certified Teachers Week".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 533) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024, THROUGH TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned to convene for a pro forma session only, with no business conducted, at 9 a.m. on Friday, January 26; further, that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Kolar nomination and that all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m.; further, that the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen on Wednesday, January 31; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:49 p.m., adjourned until Friday, January 26, 2024, at 9 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

PATRICK JOHN FUCHS, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 14, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SAMUEL E. LATHAM, OF DELAWARE, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE ALBERT DICLEMENTE, TERM EXPIRED.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

PATRICE J. ROBINSON, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2028, VICE WILLIAM B. KILBRIDE, TERM EXPIRED.