

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 215

Recognizing the cultural and historical significance of Nowruz.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2023

Ms. LOFGREN (for herself, Mrs. BICE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HIMES, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PORTER, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CORREA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. MULLIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the cultural and historical significance of  
Nowruz.

Whereas Nowruz marks the traditional Iranian New Year, which originated in ancient Persia, and dates back more than 3,000 years;

Whereas Nowruz, meaning a “New Day”, occurs on the vernal equinox and celebrates the arrival of spring;

Whereas Nowruz symbolizes a time of renewal and community, it harkens the departure from the trials and tribulations of the previous year, and it brings hope for the new year;

Whereas Nowruz is celebrated by nearly 300,000,000 Iranians and other peoples all over the world, including in the United States, Iran, and other countries in Central Asia, South Asia, the Caucasus, Crimea, and the Balkan region;

Whereas Nowruz is celebrated by Iranian Americans of all backgrounds, including those with Baha'i, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Zoroastrian, and nonreligious backgrounds;

Whereas Nowruz serves to remind the United States of the many lasting contributions of the Persian civilization to the world and the noteworthy impact of Iranian Americans to the social and economic fabric of society in the United States;

Whereas Iranian Americans continue to make contributions in all sectors of American public life, including as government, military, and law enforcement officials working to uphold the Constitution of the United States and to protect all people in the United States;

Whereas Iranian Americans maintain strong ties to the people of Iran and desire to see a democratic Iran that respects human rights;

Whereas Congress supports the Iranian people's right to freedom of expression and speech;

Whereas, since September of 2022, following the death of Mahsa Amini in state custody of the Iranian morality police for purportedly wearing a hijab improperly, the Iranian people have been protesting against the Iranian regime's gross human rights violations and in support of "Women, Life, Freedom"; and

Whereas Nowruz embodies the tradition that each individual's thinking, speaking, and conduct should always be virtuous, and the ideal of compassion for our fellow human beings regardless of ethnicity or religion, and connects the Persian New Year to the values of human rights: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes the cultural and historical signifi-  
3               cance of Nowruz;

4               (2) expresses its appreciation for the contribu-  
5               tions of Iranian Americans to society in the United  
6               States in observance of Nowruz;

7               (3) recognizes the hopes and aspirations of all  
8               people, including the people of Iran, for human  
9               rights, religious tolerance, and freedom as embodied  
10              in the spirit of Nowruz;

11              (4) commends the observance of the Nowruz  
12              holiday in both the United States and Iran, and  
13              strongly supports the right of all Iranians to exercise  
14              freedom of assembly, freedom of expression, and  
15              freedom of speech; and

16              (5) wishes Iranian Americans and the people of  
17              Iran and all those who observe this holiday a pros-  
18              perous new year.

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