

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 722

Recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week.

Whereas the Senate is committed to the use of forensic science in the investigation of crimes, the prosecution and conviction of the correct perpetrators of crimes, and the exoneration of innocent individuals falsely accused of crimes in the United States;

Whereas forensic science service providers address critical questions in civil and criminal investigations and trials in the United States, including by providing scientific conclusions relating to forensic evidence;

Whereas forensic science service providers partner with—

(1) Federal agencies to build and maintain criminal databases relating to latent prints, DNA, and other information relevant to criminal cases; and

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

Whereas forensic science service providers serve a vital role in the criminal justice system by providing scientific information to investigators and officers of the court; and

Whereas the fourth week in September 2020 is recognized as “National Forensic Science Week”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
3 Forensic Science Week; and

4 (2) recognizes that National Forensic Science
5 Week provides a special opportunity for—

6 (A) forensic science service providers to—

7 (i) acknowledge the contributions of
8 forensic scientists in the laboratories in
9 which those individuals work;

10 (ii) organize community events to en-
11 courage a better understanding of forensic
12 science;

13 (iii) provide tours to Federal, State,
14 and local policymakers to assist those indi-
15 viduals in gaining better insight into the
16 current capabilities of forensic science serv-
17 ice providers and the future demands that

1 forensic science service providers will face;
2 and

3 (iv) contact local media outlets and in-
4 vite those groups to cover events hosted
5 during National Forensic Science Week;

6 (B) local policymakers to—

7 (i) recognize, through formal com-
8 mendation or resolution, the contributions
9 of local forensic science laboratories to the
10 communities of those policymakers;

11 (ii) formally declare the fourth week
12 of September 2020 to be “National Foren-
13 sic Science Week” by proclamation;

14 (iii) visit local forensic science labora-
15 tories to gain an understanding of the ca-
16 pabilities and needs of those laboratories;
17 and

18 (iv) discuss the operational needs of
19 State and local forensic science labora-
20 tories;

21 (C) individuals in the United States, in-
22 cluding members of the media, to—

23 (i) attend community events spon-
24 sored by local forensic science laboratories;

1 (ii) take tours of local forensic science
2 laboratories; and

3 (iii) ask local forensic science labora-
4 tories about the operational and legislative
5 needs of those laboratories;

6 (D) members of the media to highlight
7 local news stories that focus on the work of
8 local forensic science laboratories in the commu-
9 nities that those laboratories serve; and

10 (E) public safety officers, law enforcement
11 officers, and officers of the court to—

12 (i) attend community events spon-
13 sored by local forensic science laboratories;

14 (ii) take tours of local forensic science
15 laboratories;

16 (iii) discuss the operational needs of
17 State and local forensic science labora-
18 tories; and

19 (iv) engage with local forensic science
20 laboratories about working together more
21 effectively.

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