

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 844

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. RISCH) 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 week of September 15, 2024, to September 21, 2024, 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
18 forensic science service providers will face;
19 and

1 (iv) contact and invite local media
2 outlets to cover events hosted during Na-
3 tional Forensic Science Week;

4 (B) local policymakers to—

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

9 (ii) formally declare the week of Sep-
10 tember 15, 2024, to September 21, 2024,
11 to be “National Forensic Science Week”
12 by proclamation;

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

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

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

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

24 (ii) take tours of local forensic science
25 laboratories; and

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

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

8 (E) public safety officers, law enforcement
9 officers, and officers of the court to—

10 (i) attend community events spon-
11 sored by local forensic science laboratories;

12 (ii) take tours of local forensic science
13 laboratories;

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

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

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