

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 350

Designating February 14, 2014, as National Solidarity Day for
Compassionate Patient Care.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following
resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating February 14, 2014, as National Solidarity Day
for Compassionate Patient Care.

Whereas National Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient
Care promotes national awareness of the importance of
compassionate and respectful relationships between
health care professionals and their patients as reflected
in attitudes that are sensitive to the values, autonomy,
and cultural and ethnic backgrounds of patients and their
families;

Whereas on February 14 of each year, medical professionals
and students stand in solidarity to support compassion in
health care as expressed by Dr. Randall Friese, triage
physician at the University of Arizona Medical Center,
who stated that the most important treatment he pro-
vided to Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords after she was
shot on January 8, 2011, was to hold her hand and reas-

sure her that she was in the hospital and would be cared for;

Whereas physicians, nurses, and all other health care professionals are charged with practicing medicine as both an art and a science;

Whereas an awareness of the importance of compassion in health care encourages health care professionals to be mindful of the need to treat the patient rather than the disease;

Whereas scientific research reveals that when health care professionals practice humanistically and demonstrate the qualities of integrity, compassion, altruism, respect, empathy, and service, their patients have better medical outcomes; and

Whereas February 14th would be an appropriate day to designate as National Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient Care and for health care students and professionals to celebrate by performing humanistic acts of compassion and kindness toward patients, families of patients, and health care colleagues: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates February 14, 2014, as National
3 Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient Care;

4 (2) recognizes the importance and value of a re-
5 spectful relationship between health care profes-
6 sionals and their patients as a means of promoting
7 better health outcomes; and

8 (3) encourages all health care professionals to
9 be mindful of the important roles in medicine of hu-

- 1 manism and compassion, as well as technical exper-
- 2 tise.

