

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 276

Recognizing American Muslims' history and contributions to our Nation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2019

Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CORREA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Ms. OMAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

RESOLUTION

Recognizing American Muslims' history and contributions to
our Nation.

Whereas the millions of American Muslims, immigrant and native born, comprise two percent of the total population of the United States, and have built a vibrant community of diverse races, ethnicities, viewpoints, and backgrounds;

Whereas many African slaves brought to the Americas, including the American colonies, later known as the United States of America, were Muslim, and made innumerable contributions to the founding of our Nation;

Whereas American Muslims have long served in the Nation's Armed Forces and fought in all major United States conflicts, from the Revolutionary War to present day, with

more than 5,000 Muslims currently serving in the Armed Forces and many Muslims having made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States, including Army Corporal Kareem Rashad Sultan Khan (1987–2007), and Army Captain Humayun Saqib Muazzam Khan (1976–2004);

Whereas countless American Muslims contribute to our Nation’s economy and well-being as physicians, business owners, laborers, service workers, teachers engaging the next generation of Americans, and police officers, firefighters, and first responders saving lives every day; and

Whereas American Muslims have and continue to make important contributions to the advancement of our Nation that are fundamental to our shared American values, society, and culture, including—

(1) military veterans like Revolutionary War Virginian Corporal Bampett Muhamed, Yusuf Ben Ali (also known as Joseph Benhaley), who served in George Washington’s Army and fought with General Thomas Sumter in South Carolina, Civil War Union Captain Moses Osman, who was the highest ranking Muslim in that war, World War II Army Corporal Sheikh Nazim Abdul-Kariem, who served in the Battle of Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge, Army Sergeant First Class and Korean war prisoner-of-war Mujahid Mohammed, retired Chief Master Sergeant of the United States Air Force Talib M. Shareef, who now serves as Imam at the Nation’s Mosque in Washington, DC, and the countless other American Muslims who served valiantly in the First and Second World Wars, the Korean and Vietnam wars, and most recent conflicts;

(2) Yarrow Mamout, the freed African-American Muslim slave who later became one of the first share-

holders of the second chartered bank in America, the Columbia Bank;

(3) famed architect and designer Fazlur Rahman Khan, who designed the Sears Tower and the John Hancock Center;

(4) Mohammad Salman Hamdani, the New York City Police Department cadet and Emergency Medical Technician who heroically died helping others in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center;

(5) Dr. Farouk El-Baz, geologist and remote sensing scientist who, as Secretary of the Landing Site Selection Committee for the Apollo missions, Principal Investigator of Visual Observations and Photography, and Chairman of the Astronaut Training Group of the Apollo Photo Team (1967–1972), was instrumental in helping NASA identify the landing sites on the Moon for the Apollo program;

(6) noted academics and researchers like Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang, professor and former chairman of the African Studies Department at Howard University, Dr. Intisar A. Rabb, Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and a director of its Islamic Legal Studies Program, Asifa Quraishi-Landes, comparative law expert at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Zareena Grewal, American studies and religious studies scholar at Yale University;

(7) health professionals like Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni, director of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Heather Laird-Johnson, Founder, President, and Director of the Center for Muslim Mental Health and Islamic Psychology at the University of Southern California, and Dr. Zehra Siddiqui, who focuses on providing health care for under-

served populations including homeless individuals, immigrants, and those without health insurance;

(8) Olympic medalists like boxer Muhammad Ali, track and field athlete Dalilah Muhammad, and fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad;

(9) professional athletes like basketball players Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Hakeem Olajuwon, and Shaquille O'Neal, football players like Muhammad Wilkerson, Ameer Abdullah, brothers Husain and Hamza Abdullah, and two-time world heavyweight champion Hasim Shariff Rahman;

(10) religious leaders like African-American Muslim imam, civil rights activist and reformer Hajj Malik El Shabazz, also known as Malcolm X;

(11) Imam Warith Deen Mohammed (born Wallace D. Muhammad), referred to by many as America's Imam, an African-American Muslim leader and theologian who worked tirelessly to unite the diverse Muslim community and Nation, and, in 1992, was the first American Muslim to deliver the invocation for the Senate;

(12) public servants like Dr. Ahmed Hassan Zewail, who won a Nobel Prize in Chemistry and was a Presidential Council of Advisors on Science and Technology member, former Deputy Director of the United States National Security Council and Nixon administration advisor Dr. Robert (Farooq) D. Crane, and Zalmay Khalilzad, who served as the United States Ambassador to Afghanistan from 2003–2005, Iraq from 2005–2007, and the United Nations from 2007–2009, and Adam Shaheed, the first Muslim judge in the country;

(13) elected officials like Indiana Congressman André Carson, Minnesota Congresswoman Ilhan Omar, Michigan Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, Minnesota At-

torney General Keith Ellison, Virginia State representative Sam Rasoul, Pennsylvania State representative Movita Johnson-Harrell, and local council members, including Aisha Wahab from Hayward, California, Susan Dabaja of Dearborn, Michigan, Shahid Shafi of Southlake, Texas, and Basheer Jones from Cleveland, Ohio;

(14) entrepreneurs and business leaders like chairman, CEO, and president of Ethan Allen Interiors Inc., Farooq Kathwari, National Football League Jacksonville Jaguars owner and business tycoon Shahid Khan, Islamic fashion designer and Verona Collection company founder Lisa Vogl, founder of Iman Cosmetics and philanthropist Zara (Iman) Mohamed Abdulmajid, hair and spa care business magnate Farouk Shami, Chobani Greek Yogurt founder, chairman, and CEO, Hamdi Ulukaya, and Dr. Mark Humayun, who co-invented Argus series retina implants; and

(15) entertainers like actor and comedian Hasan Minaj, rapper Lupe Fiasco, the first Muslim actor to win an Oscar, Mahershala Ali, the creator of Mr. Robot, Sam Esmail, and comedian and actor Maysoon Zayid: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives recog-
- 2 nizes the historic and valuable contributions of the Amer-
- 3 ican Muslim community to the United States.

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