

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

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 17, 2023, to September 23, 2023, 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-

1 ice providers and the future demands that
2 forensic science service providers will face;
3 and

4 (iv) contact and invite local media
5 outlets to cover events hosted during Na-
6 tional Forensic Science Week;

7 (B) local policymakers to—

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

12 (ii) formally declare the week of Sep-
13 tember 17, 2023, to September 23, 2023,
14 to be “National Forensic Science Week”
15 by proclamation;

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

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

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

1 (i) attend community events spon-
2 sored by local forensic science laboratories;

3 (ii) take tours of local forensic science
4 laboratories; and

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

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

12 (E) public safety officers, law enforcement
13 officers, and officers of the court to—

14 (i) attend community events spon-
15 sored by local forensic science laboratories;

16 (ii) take tours of local forensic science
17 laboratories;

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

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