

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 171 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY DAWKINS, SCHLOSSBERG, BIZZARRO, A. DAVIS, T. DAVIS, HARRIS, MILLARD, WILLIAMS, DONATUCCI, DiGIROLAMO, KORTZ, BARRAR, BURNS, YOUNGBLOOD, WARREN, BROWN, KINSEY, ZABEL, SONNEY, CALTAGIRONE, SAINATO, HOHENSTEIN, MURT, DeLUCA, COX, O'MARA, HILL-EVANS, FIEDLER, FREEMAN, READSHAW, McNEILL, STURLA, MARKOSEK AND SAPPEY, MARCH 25, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 25, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Paying tribute to those who lost their lives during the
2 terrorist attack at the mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand.

3 WHEREAS, At approximately 1:40 p.m. on Friday, March 15,
4 2019, a gunman entered a Christchurch, New Zealand city mosque
5 with an automatic weapon and opened fire on people inside during
6 Jumu'ah prayer; and

7 WHEREAS, The gunman then proceeded to a second mosque and
8 continued on his murderous rampage; and

9 WHEREAS, The gunman shot and killed a total of 50 people and
10 seriously injured 50 others; and

11 WHEREAS, The attack is New Zealand's worst terror attack,
12 deadliest mass shooting and incident of violence against the
13 Muslim community in its history; and

14 WHEREAS, New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern described
15 the horror as a terrorist attack, saying it was perpetrated by

1 suspects with "extremist views" that had no place in her country
2 or the wider world; and

3 WHEREAS, Stories of the bravery of those inside the mosques
4 have revealed that some acted as heroes in an attempt to shield
5 family members and fellow worshipers, with one worshiper
6 actually chasing the gunman away from the first mosque, thus
7 preventing further loss of life; and

8 WHEREAS, The terrorist attack appeared to have been carried
9 out by a white nationalist who posted a racist manifesto online
10 and streamed live video of the killings; and

11 WHEREAS, A 28-year-old man from Australia was charged with
12 murder, and New Zealand police have said he would face
13 additional charges and were considering charging him under the
14 country's Terrorism Suppression Act 2002; and

15 WHEREAS, With an immense outpouring of support from all over
16 the world, people have shown they value the lives and
17 contributions of those of all religions and advocate love and
18 acceptance over hate and ignorance; and

19 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of
20 Pennsylvania denounces the killing of innocent people and the
21 use of violence to express hate and inflict terror; therefore be
22 it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
24 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pay tribute to those who lost their
25 lives during the terrorist attack at the mosques in
26 Christchurch, New Zealand; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
28 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania extend its deepest condolences to
29 the families and friends of the victims; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the

1 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania acknowledge the efforts of the
2 emergency responders and law enforcement officers who risked
3 their lives to protect their community as well as all those who
4 sought to help victims during and after the shootings; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
7 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania express its strong support for the
8 survivors of the terrorist attack as well as all the residents
9 of Christchurch, New Zealand in their recovery and healing; and
10 be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
12 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania commit to doing what it can to
13 combat the proliferation of hate, terror and violence in our
14 communities and in our Commonwealth; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
16 Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, 658 New North Road, Morningside,
17 Auckland, New Zealand.