

## Senate Resolution 790

By: Senators Islam Parkes of the 7th, Rahman of the 5th, McLaurin of the 14th, Esteves of the 6th, Jackson of the 41st and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 15, 2024, as the International Day to Combat Islamophobia; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, observed annually on March 15, the International Day to Combat Islamophobia  
4 represents a time to acknowledge the pressing and intensifying issue of Islamophobia, which  
5 is further fueled and amplified by persistent and damaging stereotypes that perpetuate and  
6 generalize negative attitudes towards Muslims; and

7 WHEREAS, this date was chosen in observance and remembrance of the tragic Christchurch  
8 mosque shootings of 2019 in New Zealand, during which 51 people were killed; and

9 WHEREAS, the International Day to Combat Islamophobia seeks to promote a better  
10 understanding of Islam and to encourage people to challenge negative stereotypes and biased  
11 attitudes towards Muslims; and

12 WHEREAS, during this day, governments and civil society organizations are encouraged to  
13 take measures to prevent and combat Islamophobia as well as to promote respect for diversity  
14 and cultural differences; and

15 WHEREAS, according to the Geneva International Centre for Justice, Islamophobia has  
16 increased in recent years due to factors such as media coverage that portrays Muslims as  
17 terrorists or extremists, the scapegoating of Muslims for societal problems, and the politically  
18 motivated promotion of anti-Muslim sentiment; and

19 WHEREAS, negative portrayals of Islam and Muslims, along with harmful stereotypes, have  
20 contributed to the normalization of discrimination, hostility, and violence against Muslims  
21 and their communities; and

22 WHEREAS, in acknowledgment of the rising issue of Islamophobia, it is abundantly fitting  
23 and proper that this day be appropriately honored.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
25 recognize March 15, 2024, as the International Day to Combat Islamophobia.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
27 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the  
28 press.