



Introduced Version

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing Religious Freedom Day.

Kruse

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20212672

2021

SR 2501/DI 133



SENATE RESOLUTION _____

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing Religious Freedom
2 Day.

3 *Whereas, The United States' democracy is rooted in the*
4 *fundamental truth that all people are created equal, endowed*
5 *by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, including life,*
6 *liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;*

7 *Whereas, The freedom of conscience was highly valued by the*
8 *individuals seeking religious freedom who settled in the*
9 *American colonies and by the founders of the United States;*

10 *Whereas, The Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom was*
11 *enacted in 1786 and was the forerunner to the Free Exercise*
12 *Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United*
13 *States;*

14 *Whereas, The First Amendment to the Constitution of the*
15 *United States protects the right of individuals to freely express*
16 *and peacefully act on their religious beliefs;*

17 *Whereas, The First Amendment to the Constitution of the*
18 *United States also protects individuals from coercion to profess*
19 *or act on a religious belief to which they do not adhere;*

20 *Whereas, Every president of the United States since 1993 has*
21 *issued a proclamation to celebrate Religious Freedom Day and*



1 *recognized the importance of religious liberty as a core tenant*
 2 *of the United States and to any nation's lasting stability and*
 3 *well-being;*

4 *Whereas, In section 2(a)(1) of the International Religious*
 5 *Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401(a)(1)), the United States*
 6 *Congress stated, "The right to freedom of religion undergirds*
 7 *the very origin and existence of the United States";*

8 *Whereas, For countless people of the United States, faith is*
 9 *an integral part of every aspect of daily life and is not limited*
 10 *to their homes, houses of worship, or doctrinal creeds; and*

11 *Whereas, The role of religion in United States society and*
 12 *public life has a long and robust tradition. Therefore:*

13 *Be it resolved by the Senate*
 14 *of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

15 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate honors the 235th
 16 anniversary of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom.

17 SECTION 2. That the Indiana Senate affirms that:

18 (a) For individuals of any faith and individuals of no faith,
 19 religious freedom includes the right of an individual to live,
 20 work, associate, and worship in accordance with the beliefs of
 21 the individual.

22 (b) All Hoosiers can be unified in supporting religious
 23 freedom, regardless of differing individual beliefs, because
 24 religious freedom is a fundamental human right.

25 (c) The American people will remain forever unshackled in
 26 matters of faith.

27 SECTION 3. That copies of this resolution be transmitted
 28 by the Secretary of the Senate to the office of State Senator
 29 Dennis Kruse for distribution.

