

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 464

Supporting the goals and principles of Transgender Day of Remembrance by recognizing the epidemic of violence toward transgender people and memorializing the lives lost this year.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 15, 2023

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and principles of Transgender Day of Remembrance by recognizing the epidemic of violence toward transgender people and memorializing the lives lost this year.

Whereas Transgender Day of Remembrance was created following the 1998 killing of Rita Hester, a transgender woman of color, whose murder has yet to be solved;

Whereas the following year, on November 20, 1999, Gwendolyn Ann Smith created the first Transgender Day of Remembrance in honor of Rita Hester and other transgender people whose lives were lost due to violence;

Whereas Transgender Day of Remembrance 2023 honors the memory of the lives of transgender people tragically lost

in acts of violence between October 1, 2022, and September 30, 2023;

Whereas the United States is currently experiencing an epidemic of violence against transgender people of the United States;

Whereas at least 33 transgender or gender nonconforming people were violently killed in the United States in 2023, a number many believe to be much higher due to the prevalence of underreporting or misreporting violence against this community;

Whereas the lives of Tiffany Banks, Kelly Loving, Daniel Aston, Diamond Jackson-McDonald, Destiny Howard, Mar'Quis "MJ" Jackson, Caelee Love-Light, Jasmine "Star" Mack; KC Johnson, Unique Banks, Zachee Imanitwitaho, Maria Jose Rivera Rivera, Chashay Ashanti Henderson, Paris Aminah, Tortuguita, Ta'Ssiyah Woodland, Ashley Burton, Koko Da Doll, Banko Brown, Ashia Davis, Chanell Perez Ortiz, Jacob Williamson, Camdyn Rider, DeVonnie J'Rae Johnson, Thomas "Tom-Tom" Robertson, YOKO, Luis Ángel Díaz Castro, Sherlyn Marjorie, Emma Borhanian, Clayton Stephens, Ome Gandhi, Lovely Page, Bre'Asia Banks, and Alexa Sokova were tragically lost in acts of violence between October 1, 2022, and September 30, 2023;

Whereas, following the introduction of the Transgender Day of Remembrance Resolution of 2022, the lives of Morgan Moore, Kylie Monali, and London Starr were reported to have been lost to acts of violence between October 1, 2021, and September 30, 2022;

Whereas at least 285 transgender or gender nonconforming people have been murdered worldwide in 2023, according

to the Transgender Day of Remembrance memorial page from Trans Lives Matter;

Whereas violence against transgender people of the United States disproportionately impacts transgender women of color;

Whereas Black transgender women are the most targeted group to experience violence in the United States;

Whereas the COVID-19 global health pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on transgender people of the United States;

Whereas transgender people of the United States face barriers to health care, such as lack of health insurance, stigma and discrimination, and higher rates of unemployment;

Whereas transgender people disproportionately suffer from higher rates of homelessness, with reports suggesting as many as $\frac{1}{3}$ of all transgender women and $\frac{1}{2}$ of transgender women who are Black, Middle Eastern, multiracial, or undocumented have experienced homelessness;

Whereas almost half of all transgender people in the United States will attempt suicide at least once, and over 1 in 20 will attempt suicide each year, a rate that is almost 10 times higher than the rest of the United States population;

Whereas asylum seekers and refugees who are transgender experience disproportionate rates of violence, including sexual violence, as they seek safety;

Whereas transgender immigrants have died in detention centers in the United States due to medical neglect, injury, and abuse at the hands of staff;

Whereas transgender people who are housed in institutional settings such as jails and prisons are subject to high levels of violence and discrimination;

Whereas transgender students are significantly more likely to experience bullying and harassment at school due to their gender identity;

Whereas understanding and addressing the challenges faced by transgender people of the United States is hampered by a severe lack of data;

Whereas Congress and the executive branch must act to protect and preserve the lives of all people of the United States, including those that are transgender, through inclusive legislation and policies that treat everyone with dignity and respect;

Whereas the continued introduction of anti-transgender legislation has fueled violence against transgender people of the United States;

Whereas the pressure some State legislatures have pushed on State and local authorities to treat gender-affirming health care as child abuse has led to a spike in bullying and assault in schools, worsening mental health among transgender youth and adults, and parents who are afraid their children will be deprived of medical care or be removed from their homes;

Whereas the transgender community has shown great resilience in the face of adversity in all aspects of their lives, including housing, education, employment, and health care; and

Whereas the transgender community has demonstrated tremendous leadership since the courageous actions of many community members, including Marsha P. Johnson and

Sylvia Rivera, at the Stonewall uprising of 1969: Now,
therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the goals and principles of
3 Transgender Day of Remembrance by recognizing
4 the epidemic of violence toward transgender people
5 and memorializing the lives lost this year;

6 (2) recognizes that the alarming trends of in-
7 creased violence against transgender people of the
8 United States, particularly transgender women of
9 color, are unacceptable, and that finding solutions to
10 these issues must be a pressing priority for the
11 United States Government;

12 (3) supports efforts to study, respond to, and
13 prevent violence against transgender people;

14 (4) affirms the principle that every person is
15 endowed with basic human rights and that the com-
16 mitment of the United States to this principle must
17 encompass every single individual;

18 (5) recognizes the bravery and resilience of the
19 transgender community as it fights for equal dignity
20 and respect; and

21 (6) recognizes the multitude of contributions
22 and cultural impact the transgender community has
23 had on the society of the United States.

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