
WHEREAS, In a shocking, brutal assault, a gunman walked into two Christchurch mosques during prayers, and brutally killed fifty innocent people and injured many more on Friday, March 15, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Those killed were new fathers, loving mothers, adored sisters and brothers, cherished aunts and uncles, best friends, teachers, engineers, and admired colleagues. They were from many countries and varied walks of life. What they shared in common was their faith and their innocence; and
WHEREAS, Houses of worship should always be places of peace, refuge, and reflection, and never places of fear and hatred; and

WHEREAS, The terror and tragedy of a hate-filled mass murder has also been visited on our nation and many others including the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on October 27, 2018, and in Charleston at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church on June 17, 2015; and

WHEREAS, These fifty men, women and children, the youngest of whom was only three, enriched the lives of all who knew them and they will be dearly missed. The memory of their lives will live on in the memories of everyone fortunate enough to have known them; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby expresses profound sympathy on the tragic loss of fifty innocent lives at the mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this House hereby extends our support to the Muslim community of Rhode Island and stands together against Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, racism and hatred around the world, and looks to build community and strength with each other throughout Rhode Island and across the globe; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Amjad Kinjawi, President of the Rhode Island Council for Muslim Advancement, and Mufti Ikam al Haqq, the Imam of Masjid al Islam.

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