



SPONSOR: Rep. Wilson-Anton & Rep. Baumbach & Rep. Minor-Brown on behalf of all Representatives & Sen. Townsend & Sen. Pinkney on behalf of all Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

RECOGNIZING THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN AND MUSLIM RESIDENTS OF THIS STATE AS THEY OBSERVE RAMADAN.

- 1           WHEREAS, Islam is one of the world's major religions and part of our shared human heritage; and
- 2           WHEREAS, from the early days of European settlement to the present day, Muslim Americans have played a
- 3 significant role in the history of this State's economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and
- 4           WHEREAS, there are several thousand Muslim Americans across this State, contributing to its economy, social
- 5 fabric, and multicultural and pluralistic traditions; and
- 6           WHEREAS, the United States benefits greatly from the diverse contributions of the Muslim community; and
- 7           WHEREAS, Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and considered the holiest month of the year; and
- 8           WHEREAS, Ramadan is the month in which Muslims believe the Quran, the holy book of Islam, was revealed;
- 9 and
- 10          WHEREAS, Muslims fast during the entirety of the month of Ramadan, abstaining from food and drink from
- 11 sunrise to sunset; and
- 12          WHEREAS, many Muslims participate in nightly communal prayers called Taraweeh, in addition to the five daily
- 13 Islamic prayers; and
- 14          WHEREAS, Ramadan is a time to reflect spiritually, build communally, and aid those in need and marks an
- 15 annual spiritual beginning for each individual – a reason to celebrate and express gratitude in this month; and
- 16          WHEREAS, during the month of Ramadan, all people are encouraged to reflect on past success and challenges of
- 17 Muslims and look to the future to continue to improve our society so that we live up to our ideals of freedom, equality, and
- 18 justice; and
- 19          WHEREAS, as the month of Ramadan is observed, we must remember the critical importance of the respect that is
- 20 to be accorded to all faiths and beliefs as reflected in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which forbids
- 21 the making of any "law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise of religion."
- 22          NOW, THEREFORE:

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the  
24 Senate concurring therein, that the observance of the holy month of Ramadan as a month of fasting, sacrifice, gratitude, and  
25 reflection and the Muslim residents of this State who daily contribute to the betterment of this State and this Nation be  
26 recognized.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 151st General Assembly encourages all Delawareans to join the General  
28 Assembly in celebrating the collective ingenuity, creativity, cultures, and traditions of Muslim Americans, and committing  
29 ourselves to raise awareness and appreciation of the month of Ramadan.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 151st General Assembly encourages all governments, schools, and  
31 businesses throughout this State to extend religious accommodations, in accordance with existing law, to the many Muslim  
32 residents, students, and workers of this State as they observe Ramadan through fasting, sacrifice, and reflection.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Concurrent Resolution recognizes Ramadan and Muslim residents of this State as they observe Ramadan.