

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 695

Commemorating the 1-year anniversary of the death of Mahsa Amini and the subsequent protests in Iran.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

Ms. MACE (for herself and Ms. JACKSON LEE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the 1-year anniversary of the death of Mahsa Amini and the subsequent protests in Iran.

Whereas, on September 16, 2022, 22-year-old Mahsa (Jina) Amini died in police custody after being detained by Iran's morality police for allegedly wearing her hijab too loosely;

Whereas Ms. Amini's death sparked widespread protests across Iran and around the world against the mandatory wearing of the hijab and the repression of women's rights more broadly under Iran's clerical rule;

Whereas women have been at the forefront of the 2022 protest movement in the wake of Mahsa Amini's death, and authorities have been particularly keen to silence prominent female voices of conscience, including human rights lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh, who was threatened with being

returned to jail after speaking to and writing for international media outlets;

Whereas Iran is now the top jailer of women writers globally, according to PEN America’s Freedom to Write Index, and in 2022, 16 out of 42 female writers jailed globally were held in Iran;

Whereas women who have spoken out in support of the protests from jail have continued to face harassment, and in some cases, additional charges, including activist and writer Narges Mohammadi and poet and activist Golrokh Ebrahimi Iraee;

Whereas the protest movement reflects the desires of millions of Iranians, especially women and youth, for greater freedom and gender equality; and

Whereas over 500 protesters have been killed and over 19,000 arrested by security forces in violent crackdowns on demonstrations over the past year, according to human rights groups: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commemorates Mahsa Amini and the count-
3 less protesters killed or detained since September
4 2022;

5 (2) affirms its support for the rights of women
6 and all people in Iran to freedom of expression, as-
7 sembly, and access to information both online and
8 offline;

9 (3) calls on the Government of Iran to end its
10 violence and repression against peaceful protesters;

1 (4) urges the unconditional release of all those
2 detained for exercising their rights to freedom of ex-
3 pression and peaceful assembly in connection with
4 the protests; and

5 (5) reaffirms the necessity of holding account-
6 able those responsible for human rights violations re-
7 lated to the protests.

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