

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 9

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By: Delegates Cain, Acevero, Attar, Bagnall, D. Barnes, Barve, Branch, Bridges, Brooks, Busch, Carey, Carr, Chang, Charkoudian, Chisholm, Corderman, Crosby, Dumais, Ebersole, Feldmark, W. Fisher, Fraser-Hidalgo, Guyton, Hill, Holmes, Jones, Kaiser, Kipke, Korman, Lehman, J. Lewis, R. Lewis, Lierman, Love, Luedtke, Malone, McIntosh, Mosby, Palakovich Carr, Pena-Melnyk, Pendergrass, Smith, Solomon, Turner, ~~and Wilkins~~ Wilkins, Healey, Glenn, Atterbeary, B. Barnes, Beitzel, D.E. Davis, Gaines, McComas, Reznik, and Stein

Introduced and read first time: March 4, 2019

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 2019

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RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Freedom of the Press Day**

3 FOR the purpose of designating June 28 as Freedom of the Press Day; and generally  
4 relating to Freedom of the Press Day.

5 WHEREAS, The Founding Fathers of the United States recognized the critical  
6 importance of a free press to the nation's democracy through the inclusion of the right to a  
7 free press in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America; and

8 WHEREAS, Other nations do not enjoy this right; and

9 WHEREAS, Members of the United States armed forces have given the ultimate  
10 sacrifice to protect this right; and

11 WHEREAS, This right is threatened in the United States and around the world by  
12 acts of violence and dangerous, irresponsible rhetoric; and

13 WHEREAS, The General Assembly honors on June 28 the loss of the lives of Gerald  
14 Fischman, Rob Hiaasen, John McNamara, Rebecca Smith, and Wendi Winters of the

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## EXPLANATION:

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken by amendment.



**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 9**

1 Capital Gazette, who were murdered conducting work as journalists in Annapolis,  
2 Maryland; and

3 WHEREAS, The Annapolis community, Anne Arundel County, the State of  
4 Maryland, the United States of America, and citizens of the world mourn the loss of the  
5 lives of these journalists, as well as journalists both domestic and international, who have  
6 died in the line of duty; and

7 WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland desires that June 28 be recognized  
8 as Freedom of the Press Day in Maryland to memorialize the lives lost on June 28, 2018,  
9 at the Capital Gazette offices and to honor and protect all journalists serving a vital role in  
10 our State's democratic process to inform residents of the happenings of their governments;  
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General  
13 Assembly of Maryland designates June 28 as Freedom of the Press Day; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
15 Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the  
16 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the  
17 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Approved:

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.