

SENATE RESOLUTION

8725

By Senators Padden, Takko, Baumgartner, Brown, Rolfes, Schoesler, Angel, Benton, Roach, Litzow, Bailey, King, Ericksen, Warnick, O'Ban, Sheldon, Hargrove, Miloscia, Braun, Fain, Becker, Parlette, Hobbs, Dammeier, and Hill

1 WHEREAS, Justice Antonin Gregory Scalia will go down in history
2 as one of the most transformational Supreme Court justices our
3 country has ever witnessed; and

4 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia, son of an Italian immigrant, was
5 valedictorian of his 1957 class at Georgetown University and
6 graduated from Harvard Law School in 1960; and

7 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia launched his legal career at an
8 international firm, but in 1967 decided to follow his passion to
9 teach law at the University of Virginia; and

10 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia received his first political appointment
11 in 1971 from President Richard Nixon; and

12 WHEREAS, Just before President Ford's inauguration in 1974,
13 Justice Scalia became head of the Office of Legal Counsel at the
14 United States Department of Justice, returning to teaching law during
15 President Carter's term, this time at the University of Chicago; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1982, President Ronald Reagan nominated Justice
17 Scalia to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of
18 Columbia; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1986, President Reagan appointed Justice Scalia an
20 Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, an
21 appointment confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate; and

1 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia, an avid hunter and rugged
2 individualist until the end, died on February 13, 2016, at the
3 untimely age of 79 while on a hunting trip in Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia was the longest-serving member of
5 the current Supreme Court at the time of his death, and with
6 nearly 30 years on the Court was among the longest-serving
7 associate justices in history; and

8 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia was regarded as a staunch advocate
9 of free speech and a leading conservative voice on the Supreme
10 Court; and

11 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia also stood out for his textualist
12 interpretation that put emphasis on the actual words in the
13 Constitution itself and for vehemently guarding against other
14 modes of interpretation by which judges imposed their own policy
15 preferences onto cases; and

16 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia, a devout Roman Catholic and father
17 of nine children, dedicated his life to protecting every
18 American's right to the constitutional protections granted to us
19 by our Founding Fathers; and

20 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia held a close and unbreakable
21 friendship with his ideological opposite, Justice Ruth Bader
22 Ginsburg, and relished their intellectual debates; and

23 WHEREAS, Their friendship provided an example of how
24 criticism of ideas does not have to be criticism of people and
25 showed how hard-fought debate could still result in civil
26 relations;

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the
28 memory of Justice Antonin Scalia for his dedication to service,
29 his intellectual rigor, his example of friendship and civility
30 across the ideological divide, and his passion for individual
31 liberty, rule of law, and the text of the Constitution of the
32 United States; and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
34 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
35 United States Supreme Court and to the friends and family of
36 Justice Antonin Scalia.

37 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,

1 do hereby certify that this is a true and
2 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8725,
3 adopted by the Senate
4 February 16, 2016

5 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
6 Secretary of the Senate