
SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8014

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Saldaña, Orwall, Alvarado, Dhingra, Frame, Hasegawa, Lovelett, Nobles, Slatter, Stanford, Trudeau, Valdez, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 01/30/26.

1 TO THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE UNITED STATES
5 SECRETARY OF STATE, AND TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND
6 TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE:

7 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
8 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
9 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

10 WHEREAS, Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi was raised from the age of one in
11 Seattle, Washington, where she attended West Seattle High School as
12 well as the Ida B. Wells School for Social Justice, an alternative
13 Seattle Public Schools college preparatory program at the University
14 of Washington campus; and

15 WHEREAS, Eygi possessed a profound sense of peace and justice
16 which cultivated her enduring personal commitment to social and
17 environmental activism as a tireless community leader who organized
18 peaceful protests including a 2016 mass student walkout against
19 xenophobia and for religious freedom in Seattle, who stood in
20 solidarity with indigenous, displaced, and marginalized communities
21 across the country, including participating in the Dakota Access
22 Pipeline protests, who spent time supporting the elderly and
23 individuals with disabilities, and who worked as a behavioral

1 technician to serve children on the autism spectrum and their
2 families; and

3 WHEREAS, Eygi was equally enthusiastic and energetic about
4 engaging in global movements for peace and sustainability, devoting
5 herself to the mutual advancement of climate justice and human rights
6 through her understanding of the interdependence of healthy
7 ecosystems and thriving societies whether supporting physical therapy
8 and eco-building projects in Myanmar, participating in coral reef
9 restoration in Australia, or transforming recycled plastics into
10 usable fuel in Indonesia; and

11 WHEREAS, Eygi was an advocate for immigrant and refugee rights
12 and supported immigration justice for members of the broader Seattle
13 community, assisting them with resettlement and paperwork; and

14 WHEREAS, Eygi's tireless advocacy also extended to supporting
15 displaced communities, including organizing an art market fundraiser
16 in Seattle, raising over \$47,000 for medical aid for children in
17 Gaza; and

18 WHEREAS, Eygi graduated in June 2024 from the University of
19 Washington School of Psychology, with plans to pursue a Ph.D. in
20 anthropology to help underserved American immigrant communities by
21 conducting research and providing clinical counseling; and

22 WHEREAS, Eygi advocated for the rights of Palestinian students,
23 faculty, and families while pursuing her degree at the University of
24 Washington, and worked with the administration to create
25 opportunities for Palestinians affected by the devastation in Gaza,
26 including scholarships, and a Palestine Studies Center; and

27 WHEREAS, Eygi's strong sense of commitment to human rights
28 compelled her to travel to the West Bank in September 2024 as a
29 peaceful human rights observer; and

30 WHEREAS, Eygi was tragically killed at the age of 26 on September
31 6, 2024, in the West Bank, when, according to eye witnesses, she was
32 unprovokedly shot by an Israeli military sniper while bravely and
33 peacefully observing the illegal displacement of Palestinians from
34 their homes to make way for an Israeli settlement; and

35 WHEREAS, In honor of Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi as a human rights
36 advocate, community organizer, and university alumna, the University
37 of Washington Middle East Center established a public lecture series
38 in her name to foster public education, dialogue, and civic
39 engagement on issues of international human rights, global peace, and
40 environmental sustainability; and

1 WHEREAS, Rachel Corrie of Olympia, another Washingtonian human
2 rights activist, traveled to the Gaza Strip in 2003 as part of a
3 human rights mission and was tragically killed in Rafah on March 16,
4 2003, when she was fatally crushed by an Israeli military bulldozer
5 operated by two Israeli soldiers, as she stood to prevent the
6 demolition of a Palestinian family's home, an act of profound bravery
7 and selflessness; and

8 WHEREAS, Rachel Corrie's family never achieved accountability for
9 her killing neither through United States government diplomatic
10 channels, nor in Israeli courts, which ruled that the Israeli
11 military bore no responsibility for Rachel's killing, a ruling widely
12 criticized by human rights organizations; and

13 WHEREAS, The families of Rachel Corrie and Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi
14 continue the fight for justice and accountability for Ayşenur
15 together; and

16 WHEREAS, Justice and accountability are imperative for both
17 Rachel and Ayşenur, as well as for all United States citizens killed
18 abroad; and

19 WHEREAS, Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi and Rachel Corrie's work exemplifies
20 the highest ideals of courage, compassion, and an unyielding
21 dedication to creating a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world,
22 particularly for communities most impacted by climate change and
23 injustice; and

24 WHEREAS, Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi and Rachel Corrie have become
25 international symbols of solidarity and human rights across the
26 globe; and

27 WHEREAS, Justice and accountability for the killing of Ayşenur
28 Ezgi Eygi and other United States citizens abroad require the full
29 attention of the United States government, including a transparent,
30 thorough, and independent investigation led by the United States into
31 her death at the hands of Israeli military forces;

32 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that the
33 United States open a transparent, thorough, and independent
34 investigation into the killing of Eygi by Israeli military forces, to
35 ensure justice and accountability for Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi and all
36 United States citizens killed at the hands of a foreign government.

37 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
38 transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United
39 States, the United States Secretary of State, the United States
40 Department of State, the United States Department of Justice, the

1 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
2 Representatives, and to the Senate and House of Representatives of
3 the United States, in Congress assembled.

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