
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8014

State of Washington

69th Legislature

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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 she was shot and killed while
32 courageously observing the forceful displacement of Palestinians from
33 their homes to make way for an Israeli settlement; and

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

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

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

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

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

25 WHEREAS, Justice and accountability for the unacceptable death of
26 Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi and other United States citizens abroad require the
27 full attention of the United States government, including a
28 transparent, thorough, and independent investigation led by the
29 United States;

30 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that the
31 United States open a transparent, thorough, and independent
32 investigation into the violent death of Eygi, to ensure justice and
33 accountability for Ayşenur Ezgi Eygi and all United States citizens
34 killed under the jurisdiction of a foreign government.

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

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

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