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By:  Lalani H.R. No. 117

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Members of the Muslim community from throughout the state are gathering in Austin on January 31, 2023, to celebrate the 20th Texas Muslim Capitol Day; and

WHEREAS, Texans made history in 2022 with the election of the first two Muslim Americans to the Texas House of Representatives, Rep. Suleman Lalani, M.D. (HD 76) and Rep. Salman Bhojani (HD 92); and

WHEREAS, The Muslim community is one of the fastest-growing communities in Texas, with almost 500,000 residents who identify as Muslim, constituting 1.7 percent of the state's population; and

WHEREAS, Muslims in America are one of the most racially diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, The Muslim community pioneered mathematical concepts such as algebra, the creation of zero, the modern-day decimal point system, calculus, and the concept of raising a number to a power; moreover, the Muslim community developed numerous advancements in astronomy, geography, and medicine; in the 11th century, Muslim doctors invented hundreds of surgical tools; and

WHEREAS, The unwavering dedication of the leaders from the Islamic community in the State of Texas has served as an impetus for a more equal and altruistic population; Muslims have held public office in Texas from the local level, such as city council members and judges, all the way up to state representatives; and

WHEREAS, By bringing their perspectives to the legislative forum, members of the Muslim community are contributing to the dialogue on policy issues and helping to work toward a brighter future for all residents of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas Legislature hereby recognize January 31, 2023, as Texas Muslim Capitol Day and extend to all those participating sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable visit to Austin.