

SENATE SRes54

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)

RESOLUTIONS COMMENDING THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON ITS
RECOGNITION OF MAY 3, 2023 AS WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY.

1 WHEREAS, THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZES MAY
2 3, 2023 AS WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY; AND

3 WHEREAS, FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS A FUNDAMENTAL VALUE OF THE
4 COMMONWEALTH, THE CONSTITUTION OF WHICH DECLARES THAT “LIBERTY OF
5 THE PRESS IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SECURITY OF FREEDOM IN A STATE” WHICH
6 “OUGHT NOT, THEREFORE, TO BE RESTRAINED”; AND

7 WHEREAS, MEMBERS OF THE PRESS ARE CONFRONTING INCREASED
8 LEVELS OF REPRESSION, CENSORSHIP AND VIOLENCE WORLDWIDE, WITH
9 RECORD NUMBERS OF JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY JAILED GLOBALLY
10 INCLUDING, EVAN GERSHKOVICH, AN AMERICAN REPORTER FOR THE WALL
11 STREET JOURNAL WHO WAS DETAINED ON MARCH 29, 2023 IN RUSSIA WHILE ON
12 ASSIGNMENT; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

13 RESOLVED, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATE HEREBY COMMENDS THE
14 UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON ITS RECOGNITION OF MAY 3, 2023 AS

15 WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY, REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE
16 OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS ENshrINED IN THE MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION
17 AND EXPRESSES ITS WISHES FOR THE SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF
18 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY JAILED GLOBALLY; AND BE IT FURTHER

19 RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE TRANSMITTED
20 FORTHWITH BY THE CLERK OF THE SENATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY.