

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 66

Honoring the life, achievements, and distinguished career of the Reverend
Robert F. Drinan, S.J.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 1, 2007

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the
following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Honoring the life, achievements, and distinguished career
of the Reverend Robert F. Drinan, S.J.

Whereas the Reverend Robert F. Drinan, S.J. was a talented scholar, who received a bachelor's degree in 1942 and a master's degree in 1947 from Boston College, a bachelor's degree in law in 1949 and a master of law degree in 1951 from Georgetown University, and a doctorate in theology in 1954 from Gregorian University in Rome, Italy;

Whereas Father Drinan entered the Society of Jesus in 1942, completed his seminary work at Weston College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and was ordained as a Jesuit priest in 1953;

Whereas Father Drinan was an influential educator who served as the Dean of the Boston College Law School

from 1956 to 1970 and transformed it into one of the leading educational institutions in the United States;

Whereas Father Drinan was elected in 1970 to represent Massachusetts in the House of Representatives;

Whereas Father Drinan represented Massachusetts in the House of Representatives from 1971 to 1981, the first Roman Catholic priest ever to serve in Congress as a voting Member;

Whereas Father Drinan, during his service in the House of Representatives, was an advocate for social justice, a fighter for civil rights, and a champion in the cause of international human rights;

Whereas Father Drinan drew on his legal expertise to make significant contributions in the areas of copyright law reform, consumer protection, and criminal justice;

Whereas Father Drinan renewed his commitment to education, after his service in Congress, as a professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where he specialized in constitutional law and human rights and taught more than 6,000 students;

Whereas Father Drinan was the founder and faculty adviser to the Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics and was the author of 12 books on major public policy issues;

Whereas Father Drinan was the recipient of 22 honorary degrees and was a visiting professor at 4 universities;

Whereas Father Drinan's service led the American Bar Association (ABA) to award him the ABA Medal in 2004, the organization's highest honor, given to individuals who make exceptionally distinguished contributions to the jurisprudence of the United States; and

Whereas Father Drinan’s lifelong leadership in promoting greater awareness of the importance of international human rights resulted in 2006 in the establishment by the Georgetown University Law Center of an endowed chair in his honor, known as the Robert F. Drinan, S.J. Chair in Human Rights Law: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) honors the life, achievements, and distin-
3 guished career of the Reverend Robert F. Drinan,
4 S.J.;

5 (2) offers its appreciation for Father Drinan’s
6 devoted work on behalf of the thousands of Massa-
7 chusetts residents he represented in the House of
8 Representatives and the millions of people worldwide
9 who benefitted from his human rights initiatives;
10 and

11 (3) expresses its condolences to Father
12 Drinan’s family and friends.

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