

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

S. R. No. 428

Senator Gavarone

A RESOLUTION

Honoring Noor Abukaram as the recipient of the 2022 Billie Jean King Youth Award.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 134th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to congratulate Noor Abukaram on being presented with the Billie Jean King Youth Award at the 2022 ESPYS; and

WHEREAS, Noor Abukaram is, indeed, deserving of high praise, and this prestigious honor is a fitting tribute to her for championing the freedom of religious expression for young athletes in Ohio. As a student at Sylvania Northview High School in 2019, she was disqualified from a district cross country race for wearing a hijab while competing. After meeting with Senator Theresa Gavarone in 2020, she successfully lobbied for a bill to prohibit Ohio schools and interscholastic organizations from adopting rules that ban the wearing of religious apparel during athletic events, and she continues to focus on inclusivity in sports through her Let Noor Run campaign; and

WHEREAS, Noor Abukaram is truly a remarkable individual, for she has combined civic concern and commitment with selfless initiative to become a dynamic force in the State of Ohio. Through her decisive vision and leadership, she has distinguished herself as a conscientious and hard-working Ohioan, and we are certain that she will continue to demonstrate the same unwavering dedication to service and achievement for which she has become known; and

WHEREAS, Willingly giving of her time, energy, and abilities, Noor Abukaram has striven to better the world around her, and through her generous contributions, she has earned the respect and esteem of all who know her. We are proud to note that it is through the unceasing efforts of people such as she that Ohio has gained a reputation as a state whose residents are responsive to the needs of their

communities; therefore be it 27

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 134th General 28
Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, commend Noor Abukaram 29
on her recent accolade and salute her as one of Ohio's finest young 30
citizens; and be it further 31

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a duly 32
authenticated copy of this Resolution to Noor Abukaram. 33