

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 1, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ESTABLISHING THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA AND EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration en bloc of S. Con. Res. 35 and S. Con. Res. 36.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolutions by title en bloc.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 35) to establish the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies for the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of the United States on January 21, 2013.

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 36) to authorize the use of the rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the Capitol by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolutions en bloc.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolutions be agreed to en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to these matters be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 35) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 35

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE.

There is established a Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (in this resolution referred to as the "joint committee") consisting of 3 Senators and 3 Members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively. The joint committee is authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of the United States on January 21, 2013.

SEC. 2. SUPPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

The joint committee—

(1) is authorized to utilize appropriate equipment and the services of appropriate personnel of departments and agencies of the Federal Government, under arrangements between the joint committee and the heads of those departments and agencies, in connection with the inaugural proceedings and ceremonies; and

(2) may accept gifts and donations of goods and services to carry out its responsibilities.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 36) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 36

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA AND EMANCIPATION HALL OF THE CAPITOL.

The rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol are authorized to be used on January 21, 2013, by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 387.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 387) celebrating Black History Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the matter be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 387) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 387

Whereas in 1776, the United States of America was imagined, as stated in the Declaration of Independence, as a new country dedicated to the proposition that "... all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness ...";

Whereas the first Africans were brought involuntarily to the shores of America as early as the 17th century;

Whereas African-Americans suffered enslavement and subsequently faced the injustices of lynch mobs, segregation, and denial of the basic and fundamental rights of citizenship;

Whereas inequalities and injustices in our society still exist today;

Whereas in the face of injustices, people of the United States of good will and of all races distinguished themselves with a commitment to the noble ideals on which the United States was founded and courageously fought for the rights and freedom of African-Americans;

Whereas many African-American men and women worked against racism to achieve success and have made significant contributions to the economic, educational, political, artistic, literary, scientific, and technological advancements of the United States;

Whereas the greatness of the United States is reflected in the contributions of African-Americans in all walks of life throughout the history of the United States;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Allen Allensworth, Muhammad Ali, Constance Baker Motley, James Baldwin, James Beckwourth, Clara Brown, Ralph Bunche, Shirley Chisholm, Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. Du Bois, Ralph Ellison, Alex Haley, Dorothy Height, Lena Horne, Charles Hamilton Houston, Mahalia Jackson, Martin Luther King, Jr., the Tuskegee Airmen, Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, Bill Pickett, Jackie Robinson, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Tubman each lived a life of incandescent greatness, while many African-Americans lived, toiled, and died in obscurity, never achieving the recognition they deserved and yet paved the way for future generations to succeed;

Whereas, pioneers such as Maya Angelou, Arthur Ashe, Jr., Carol Moseley Braun, Ronald Brown, Ursula Burns, Kenneth Chenaault, David Dinkins, Alexis Herman, Mae Jemison, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Sheila Johnson, James Earl Jones, David Paterson, Marian Wright Edelman, Alice Walker, and Oprah Winfrey have all benefitted from their forefathers and have served as great role models and leaders for future generations to come;

Whereas on November 4, 2008, the people of the United States elected an African-American man, Barack Obama, as President of the United States;

Whereas African-Americans continue to serve the United States at the highest levels of government and military;

Whereas on February 22, 2012, President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, along with former First Lady Laura Bush, celebrated the groundbreaking of the National Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall in Washington, DC;

Whereas the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass inspired the creation of Negro History Week, the precursor to Black History Month;

Whereas Negro History Week represented the culmination of the efforts of Dr. Carter G. Woodson to enhance knowledge of black history through the Journal of Negro History, published by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, which was founded by Dr. Woodson and Jesse E. Moorland;

Whereas Black History Month, celebrated during the month of February, dates back to 1926 when Dr. Woodson set aside a special period of time in February to recognize the heritage and achievement of black Americans;

Whereas Dr. Woodson, the "Father of Black History", stated, "We have a wonderful history behind us. . . . If you are unable to demonstrate to the world that you have this record, the world will say to you, 'You are not worthy to enjoy the blessings of democracy or anything else.'";

Whereas since the founding, the United States has been an imperfect work in making progress towards noble goals; and

Whereas the history of the United States is the story of a people regularly affirming high ideals, striving to reach those ideals but often failing, and then struggling to come to terms with the disappointment of that failure before committing to trying again: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges that all of the people of the United States are the recipients of the wealth of history given to us by black culture;

(2) recognizes the importance of Black History Month as an opportunity to reflect on the complex history of the United States, while remaining hopeful and confident about the path that lies ahead;

(3) acknowledges the significance of Black History Month as an important opportunity to recognize the tremendous contributions of

African-Americans to the history of the United States;

(4) encourages the celebration of Black History Month to provide a continuing opportunity for all people in the United States to learn from the past and to understand the experiences that have shaped the United States; and

(5) agrees that while the United States began in division, the United States must now move forward with purpose, united tirelessly as one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all, and to honor the contribution of all pioneers in this country who help ensure the legacy of these great United States.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR OF 1812 AND "THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER"

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 388.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 388) commemorating the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 and "The Star Spangled Banner," and recognizing the historical significance, heroic human endeavor, and sacrifice of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Revenue Marine Service, and State militias, during the War of 1812.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the matter be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 388) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 388

Whereas the period beginning in 2012 and ending in 2015 marks the bicentennial celebration of the War of 1812 and "The Star Spangled Banner";

Whereas the War of 1812, which has been referred to as the "Second War of Independence", confirmed the independence of the United States from Great Britain in the eyes of the world and shaped the expansion and growth of the United States in later decades;

Whereas the United States declared war on Great Britain on June 18, 1812, to redress wrongs including—

(1) the impressment of United States sailors;

(2) the violation of the neutrality rights of the United States; and

(3) the violation of the territorial waters of the United States;

Whereas, despite the vastly superior size of the military of Great Britain, the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Revenue Marine Service (a predecessor of the United States Coast Guard), and State militias (the predecessors of the National Guard), won a number of significant vic-

tories, ensuring that the liberties won by the United States during the Revolutionary War were not lost;

Whereas major battles of the War of 1812 that were fought on the water, including the battle between U.S.S. *Constitution* and H.M.S. *Guerriere*, the Battle of Lake Champlain, and victories on the Great Lakes, showcased the might, bravery, and war-fighting tactics of the United States maritime forces;

Whereas the decisive victory of Oliver Hazard Perry over a British fleet near Put-In-Bay, Ohio in the Battle of Lake Erie ensured that—

(1) the United States gained control of the Great Lakes; and

(2) portions of the Old Northwest Territory, such as Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, remained part of the United States;

Whereas State militias, the oldest component of the Armed Forces of the United States, answered the call to service, defending their communities and their country from aggression by Great Britain;

Whereas United States forces seized the city of Mobile from Spanish control in 1813, built Fort Bowyer to protect the city, and in 1814 successfully repelled a vastly larger British force from the city, resulting in Mobile becoming one of the few permanent land concessions gained by the United States during the War of 1812;

Whereas Great Britain unleashed grievous attacks on the capital of the United States, Washington, D.C., burning to the ground the United States Capitol Building, the White House, and much of the rest of the city;

Whereas, after 2 ½ years of conflict, the British Royal Navy sailed up the Chesapeake Bay in an attempt to capture Baltimore, Maryland;

Whereas United States forces at Fort McHenry, stationed in the outer harbor of Baltimore, Maryland under the command of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel George Armistead, withstood nearly 25 hours of bombardment by the British forces and refused to yield, thereby forcing the British to give up the invasion and withdraw;

Whereas Francis Scott Key, a United States lawyer who was being held by the British on board a United States flag-of-truce vessel in the harbor, saw "by the dawn's early light", as Key would later write, an American flag still flying over Fort McHenry after the horrific attack;

Whereas Francis Scott Key immortalized the event in a poem entitled "Defense of Fort McHenry", which was later set to music and called "The Star-Spangled Banner";

Whereas "The Star-Spangled Banner" became the national anthem of the United States on March 3, 1931, when President Herbert Hoover signed Public Law 71-823;

Whereas General Andrew Jackson, who would later become the seventh President of the United States, won the Battle of Horseshoe Bend and then triumphed in the decisive Battle of New Orleans, which, although fought after the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, was a great source of pride to the young United States and provided momentum for growth and prosperity in the years that would follow;

Whereas, since 1916, the people of the United States have entrusted the National Park Service with the care of national parks and sites of historical significance to the country, including Fort McHenry and more than 30 other sites and National Heritage Areas that tell the story of the War of 1812;

Whereas the diverse historic sites relating to the War of 1812 include homes, battlefields, and landscapes that highlight the con-

tributions made by a wide range of people in the United States during the war;

Whereas one such historic site is the Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, the birthplace of "The Star Spangled Banner", where the symbols of both the flag and the national anthem of the United States come together;

Whereas the people of the United States are grateful for the rights defended through hard fighting during the War of 1812 by the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Revenue Marine Service, and State militias, including the protection of United States citizens at home and abroad, unrestricted trade, free and open ports, and the protection of the territorial integrity of the United States against aggression; and

Whereas, during the bicentennial years of the War of 1812 and "The Star Spangled Banner", it is fitting that the bravery and steadfast determination of the United States land and maritime forces be celebrated by the grateful people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the memory of all the people of the United States who came together during the War of 1812, particularly the fallen heroes who gave their lives during the "Second War of Independence";

(2) commends the men and women of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard, and the State National Guards, who preserve the ideals of freedom, democracy, and the pursuit of happiness that were guaranteed by the victories of the War of 1812;

(3) congratulates the Armed Forces of the United States, the National Parks Service, the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, and all other organizations and individuals who are involved in preserving and promoting the history of this great country, and supports their commemoration of the War of 1812 and "The Star Spangled Banner"; and

(4) calls on all people of the United States to join in the commemoration of the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and "The Star Spangled Banner" in events throughout the United States, to celebrate that at the end of the war, as Francis Scott Key wrote, "our flag was still there".

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2012

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until Friday, March 2 at 10 a.m.; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of S. 1813.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, tomorrow we will continue working on a path forward on the Transportation bill. There will be no rollcall votes, as I previously announced. There be no rollcall votes until Tuesday morning.