

Whereas Italian-Americans have made enormous contributions to the United States; and

Whereas Italy remains a steadfast partner in the defense of a shared vision of fundamental human rights and the preservation of democratic ideals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the modern state of Italy;

(2) celebrates the ties of kinship and shared democratic values that unite the two countries across the Atlantic;

(3) honors the service and sacrifice of Italy's soldiers, sailors, and airmen alongside United States forces most recently in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Libya; and

(4) reaffirms the friendship between the Government and people of the United States and the Government and people of Italy.

DESIGNATING 2012 AS THE "YEAR OF THE GIRL" AND CONGRATULATING GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from S. Res. 310 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 310) designating 2012 as the "Year of the Girl" and Congratulating Girl Scouts of the USA on its 100th anniversary.

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

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 310, which designates 2012 as the "Year of the Girl," I rise today to celebrate not only the centennial anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the USA but the efforts of the Girl Scouts of Massachusetts.

The Girl Scouts, a non-profit organization founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low, has a longstanding dedication to empowering girls to become the leaders of tomorrow. From Daisies to Ambassadors, Girl Scouts have been learning, through hands-on activities, the importance of community service, goal-setting, and personal development for 100 years. Our two councils, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts and the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts, must be honored for their exemplary success and dedication to providing generations of girls with the tools they need to succeed in our rapidly changing world.

Throughout the Bay State, the Girl Scout program has provided over 50,000 girls with the opportunity to develop leadership skills, including in science, technology, engineering, and math. Girl Scouts in Massachusetts have partnered with educational institutions in the Commonwealth and the Society of Women Engineers to create activities that would encourage girls to pursue education in science and technology. For example, Girl Scouts teamed up with an engineer to build a

looping roller coaster using household items. Additionally, Junior Scouts designed a space station and launched mini-rockets. Such learning experiences are essential to inspiring future generations of our State's innovators.

Mr. President, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Girl Scouts in Massachusetts on their accomplishments. On their 100th anniversary today, it is an honor and a pleasure to recognize the valuable contributions that Girl Scouts have provided in Massachusetts, across the Nation, and across the world. I wish their continued success in empowering our Nation's future leaders.

Mr. REID. Madam 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 that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 310) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 310

Whereas, for more than 100 years, Girl Scouts of the USA (referred to in this preamble as "Girl Scouts") has inspired girls to lead with courage, confidence and character;

Whereas the Girl Scout movement began on March 12, 1912, when Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low (a native of Savannah, Georgia) organized a group of 18 girls and provided the girls with the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually;

Whereas the goal of Daisy Low was to bring together girls of all backgrounds to develop self-reliance and resourcefulness, and to prepare each girl for a future role as a professional woman and active citizen outside the home;

Whereas, within a few years, there were nearly 70,000 Girl Scouts throughout the United States, including the territory of Hawaii;

Whereas Girl Scouts established the first troops for African-American girls in 1917 and the first troops for girls with disabilities in 1920;

Whereas today more than 50,000,000 women in the United States are alumnae of the Girl Scouts, and approximately 3,300,000 girls and adult volunteers are active members of the Girl Scouts;

Whereas Girl Scouts live in every corner of the United States, Puerto Rico, the territories of the United States, and more than 90 countries overseas;

Whereas Girl Scouts is the largest member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, a global movement comprised of more than 10,000,000 girls in 145 countries worldwide;

Whereas the robust program of Girl Scouts helps girls develop as leaders and build confidence by learning new skills;

Whereas the award-winning Girl Scout Leadership Program helps each girl discover herself and her values;

Whereas the Girl Scout Leadership Program leadership model helps girls develop skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, cooperation and team building, conflict resolution, advocacy, and other important life skills;

Whereas core programs around Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (referred to in this preamble as "STEM"), environmental stewardship, healthy living, financial literacy, and global citizenship help girls develop a solid foundation in leadership;

Whereas STEM programming, first introduced in 1913 with the "electrician" and "flyer" badges, offers girls of every age science, technology, engineering, and math activities that are relevant to everyday life;

Whereas the award-winning STEM program helps girls build strong, hands-on foundations to become future female leaders and meet the growing need for skilled science and technology professionals in the United States;

Whereas healthy living programs—

(1) help each Girl Scout build the skills necessary to maintain a healthy body, an engaged mind, and a positive spirit; and

(2) teach girls about fitness and nutrition, body image, self-esteem, and relational issues, especially bullying;

Whereas through the 100th Anniversary Take Action Project, "Girl Scouts Forever Green", Girl Scouts is honoring the commitment of Juliette Low to the outdoors by engaging families, friends, and communities to improve the environment and protect the natural resources of the United States;

Whereas the financial literacy programming of Girl Scouts, most notably the iconic Girl Scout Cookie Program, helps girls set financial goals and gain the confidence needed to ultimately take control of their own financial future;

Whereas the beloved tradition of the Girl Scout Cookie Program has a proven legacy in the United States, as more than 80 percent of highly successful businesswomen were Girl Scouts;

Whereas Girl Scouts has also helped millions of young girls become good global citizens through international exchanges, travel, "take action" and service projects, and newer programs such as "twinning" (where girls in the United States connect with girls in other countries) and virtual Girl Scout troops;

Whereas Girl Scouts has helped girls advance diversity in a multicultural world, connect with local and global communities, and feel empowered to make a difference in the world;

Whereas the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouting, requires a girl to make a measurable and sustainable difference in the community by—

- (1) assessing a need;
- (2) designing a solution;
- (3) finding the resources and the support to implement the solution;
- (4) completing the project; and
- (5) inspiring others to sustain the project;

Whereas the Gold Award honors leadership in the Girl Scout tradition because Gold Award recipients have already changed the world as high school students;

Whereas two-thirds of the most accomplished women in public service in the United States were Girl Scouts;

Whereas research by Girl Scouts shows that Girl Scouts alumnae—

- (1) have a positive sense of self;
- (2) are engaged in community service;
- (3) are civically engaged;
- (4) have attained high levels of education; and
- (5) are successful according to many economic indicators;

Whereas, in addition to the outstanding programs that Girl Scouts offers, Girl Scouts has evolved into the premier expert on the healthy growth and development of girls;

Whereas, since the founding of the Girl Scout Research Institute in 2000, the Institute has become an internationally recognized center for original research, research

reviews, and surveys that provide significant insights into the lives of girls;

Whereas the research conducted by Girl Scouts not only informs Girl Scout program development and delivery, but also helps bring the voice of girls to key issues in the public sphere;

Whereas, by bringing greater attention to the health, education, and developmental needs of girls, Girl Scouts provides a voice for girls with policymakers, business leaders, educators, and all other stakeholders who care about the healthy growth and development of girls;

Whereas Girl Scouts ensures that issues such as STEM education, bullying prevention, unhealthy perceptions of beauty as portrayed by the media, and many other important issues—

(1) are brought to the attention of the public; and

(2) are addressed through public policy at the national, State, and local levels; and

Whereas Girl Scouts of the USA is recognizing its 100th anniversary by designating 2012 as the “Year of the Girl”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the importance of empowering girls to lead with courage, confidence, and character;

(2) congratulates Girl Scouts of the USA on its 100th anniversary; and

(3) designates 2012 as the “Year of the Girl”.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITALIAN UNIFICATION

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 394, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 394) commemorating the 150th anniversary of Italian unification and the beginning of the warm and abiding relations between the people of the United States and Italy.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Madam 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 that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 394) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 394

Whereas it has been 150 years since March 17, 1861, when the parliament of a united Italy proclaimed Victor Emmanuel II their king;

Whereas the story of the Italian Risorgimento, in particular Giuseppe Garibaldi's heroic adventures, have inspired generations of Americans;

Whereas, between 1880 to 1920, an estimated 4,000,000 Italian immigrants arrived in

the United States to settle and help build our Nation;

Whereas today there are almost 18,000,000 Americans of Italian ancestry whose contributions to our society are diverse and profound;

Whereas Italy has been a loyal NATO ally and a major strategic partner for over 60 years;

Whereas Italian-Americans have made enormous contributions to the United States; and

Whereas Italy remains a steadfast partner in the defense of a shared vision of fundamental human rights and the preservation of democratic ideals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the modern state of Italy;

(2) celebrates the ties of kinship and shared democratic values that unite the two countries across the Atlantic;

(3) honors the service and sacrifice of Italy's soldiers, sailors, and airmen alongside United States forces most recently in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Libya; and

(4) reaffirms the friendship between the Government and people of the United States and the Government and people of Italy.

MEASURES READ THE 1ST TIME— H.R. 3606 AND S. 2186

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for their first readings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bills by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3606) to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to public capital markets for emerging growth companies.

A bill (S. 2186) to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to prohibit the Attorney General from administering or enforcing certain accessibility regulations relating to pools at public accommodations or provided by public entities.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading but object to my own request on both these measures.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2012

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 13, at 10 a.m.; that following the prayer and 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 proceed to a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half; that following

morning business, the Senate resume consideration of S. 1813, the highway bill; further that following the vote in relation to the Bingaman amendment, the Senate recess until 2:15 tomorrow for our weekly caucus meetings.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, there will be two rollcall votes tomorrow at noon.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:05 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, March 13, 2012, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOROTHEA-MARIA ROSE, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

ARTHUR BIENENSTOCK, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 10, 2016, VICE LOUIS J. LANZEROTTI, TERM EXPIRED.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

SURAVI GANGOPADHYAY, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 6, 2016, VICE JEFFREY PATCHEN, TERM EXPIRED.

LUIS HERRERA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 6, 2014, VICE KATINA P. STRAUCH, TERM EXPIRED.

SUZANNE E. THORIN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 6, 2015, VICE SANDRA PICKETT, TERM EXPIRED.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

KATHERINE C. TOBIN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2016, VICE CAROLYN L. GALLAGHER, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271:

To be rear admiral upper half

REAR ADMIRAL (LH) DANIEL B. ABEL
REAR ADMIRAL (LH) FREDERICK J. KENNEY, JR.
REAR ADMIRAL (LH) MARSHALL E. LYTLE III
REAR ADMIRAL (LH) FRED M. MIDGETTE
REAR ADMIRAL (LH) KARL L. SCHULTZ
REAR ADMIRAL (LH) CARL B. THOMAS
REAR ADMIRAL (LH) CHRISTOPHER J. TOMMEY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DAVID D. HALVERSON

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531(A):