

S. RES. 498

Whereas on June 20, 1782, the bald eagle was officially designated as the national emblem of the United States by the founding fathers in the Congress of the Confederation;

Whereas the bald eagle is the central image of the Great Seal of the United States;

Whereas the image of the bald eagle is displayed in the official seal of many branches and departments of the Federal Government, including—

- (1) the Office of the President;
- (2) the Office of the Vice President;
- (3) Congress;
- (4) the Supreme Court;
- (5) the Department of the Treasury;
- (6) the Department of Defense;
- (7) the Department of Justice;
- (8) the Department of State;
- (9) the Department of Commerce;
- (10) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (11) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- (12) the Department of Labor;
- (13) the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (14) the Department of Energy;
- (15) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- (16) the Central Intelligence Agency; and
- (17) the Postal Service;

Whereas the bald eagle is an inspiring symbol of—

- (1) the spirit of freedom; and
- (2) the sovereignty of the United States;

Whereas since the founding of the Nation, the image, meaning, and symbolism of the bald eagle have played a significant role in the art, music, history, commerce, literature, architecture, and culture of the United States;

Whereas the bald eagle is prominently featured on the stamps, currency, and coinage of the United States;

Whereas the habitat of bald eagles exists only in North America;

Whereas by 1963, the population of bald eagles that nested in the lower 48 States had declined to approximately 417 nesting pairs;

Whereas due to the dramatic decline in the population of bald eagles in the lower 48 States, the Secretary of the Interior listed the bald eagle as an endangered species on the list of endangered species published under section 4(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(1));

Whereas caring and concerned individuals from the Federal, State, and private sectors banded together to save, and help ensure the recovery and protection of, bald eagles;

Whereas on July 20, 1969, the first manned lunar landing occurred in the Apollo 11 Lunar Excursion Module, which was named “Eagle”;

Whereas the “Eagle” played an integral role in achieving the goal of the United States of landing a man on the Moon and returning that man safely to Earth;

Whereas in 1995, as a result of the efforts of those caring and concerned individuals, the Secretary of the Interior listed the bald eagle as a threatened species on the list of threatened species published under section 4(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(1));

Whereas by 2007, the population of bald eagles that nested in the lower 48 States had increased to approximately 10,000 nesting pairs, an increase of approximately 2,500 percent from the preceding 40 years;

Whereas in 2007, the population of bald eagles that nested in the State of Alaska was approximately 50,000 to 70,000;

Whereas on June 28, 2007, the Secretary of the Interior removed the bald eagle from the list of threatened species published under section 4(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(1));

Whereas bald eagles remain protected in accordance with—

- (1) the Act entitled “An Act for the protection of the bald eagle”, approved June 8, 1940 (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.) (commonly known as the “Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940”); and
- (2) the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.);

Whereas on January 15, 2008, the Secretary of the Treasury issued 3 limited edition bald eagle commemorative coins under the American Bald Eagle Recovery and National Emblem Commemorative Coin Act (Public Law 108-486; 118 Stat. 3934);

Whereas the sale of the limited edition bald eagle commemorative coins issued by the Secretary of the Treasury has raised approximately \$7,800,000 for the nonprofit American Eagle Foundation of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee to support efforts to protect the bald eagle;

Whereas if not for the vigilant conservation efforts of concerned Americans and the enactment of conservation laws (including regulations), the bald eagle would face extinction;

Whereas the American Eagle Foundation has brought substantial public attention to the cause of the protection and care of the bald eagle nationally;

Whereas November 4, 2010, marked the 25th anniversary of the American Eagle Foundation;

Whereas facilities around the United States, such as the Southeastern Raptor Center at Auburn University in the State of Alabama, rehabilitate injured eagles for release into the wild;

Whereas the dramatic recovery of the population of bald eagles—

- (1) is an endangered species success story; and
- (2) an inspirational example for other wildlife and natural resource conservation efforts around the world;

Whereas the initial recovery of the population of bald eagles was accomplished by the concerted efforts of numerous government agencies, corporations, organizations, and individuals; and

Whereas the continuation of recovery, management, and public awareness programs for bald eagles will be necessary to ensure—

- (1) the continued progress of the recovery of bald eagles; and
- (2) that the population and habitat of bald eagles will remain healthy and secure for future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) designates June 20, 2012, as “American Eagle Day”;

- (2) applauds the issuance of bald eagle commemorative coins by the Secretary of the Treasury as a means by which to generate critical funds for the protection of bald eagles; and
- (3) encourages—

(A) educational entities, organizations, businesses, conservation groups, and government agencies with a shared interest in conserving endangered species to collaborate and develop educational tools for use in the public schools of the United States; and

(B) the people of the United States to observe American Eagle Day with appropriate ceremonies and other activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 499—RECOGNIZING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL IMAGING AND BIOENGINEERING

Mr. BURR (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 499

Whereas the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering Establishment Act (Public Law 106-580; 114 Stat. 3088) was signed into law on December 29, 2000;

Whereas the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (referred to in this preamble as the “Institute”) awarded its first research grants in April 2002;

Whereas the purpose of the Institute, a component of the National Institutes of Health, is to conduct and support research, training, dissemination of health information, and other programs relating to biomedical imaging, biomedical engineering, and associated technologies and modalities with biomedical applications;

Whereas the Institute was established to—

- (1) accelerate the development of new technologies with clinical and research applications;

- (2) improve coordination and efficiency at the National Institutes of Health and throughout the Federal Government;

- (3) lay the foundation for a new medical information age;

- (4) promote economic development; and

- (5) provide a structure for training current and future researchers based on the most recent innovative discoveries;

Whereas the Institute and the biomedical imaging and bioengineering research communities encourage the integration of the physical and life sciences to advance human health by improving quality of life and reducing the burden of disease through research and discoveries;

Whereas, since its establishment, the Institute has supported research to develop scientific advances in biotechnology, imaging, and biomedical engineering, and to advance the application of biomedical technology to improve detection, treatment, and prevention of disease by assembling diverse teams of scientists and engineers to pursue innovative medical therapies and technologies to better meet the health care needs of patients; and

Whereas the Institute has helped to support scientific breakthroughs in areas such as regenerative medicine, cancer treatments, and nanotechnology, which are helping health care providers to better target care and meet the individual health care needs of patients: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) commends the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering for its leadership in research and its role in advancing technologies that improve patient health;

- (2) recognizes the remarkable impact that biomedical research supported by the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering has had on patients; and

- (3) recognizes the importance of maintaining a strong commitment to pursuing the next generation of life-saving treatments and technologies for patients.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2459. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2460. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2459. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title IV, add the following:

SEC. 4208. ENCOURAGING LOCALLY AND REGIONALLY PRODUCED FOOD.

(a) **COMMODITY PURCHASE STREAMLINING.**—The Secretary may allow a school food authority with low annual commodity entitlement values, as determined by the Secretary, to substitute for the allotment of the school food authority for commodities commonly referred to as “USDA Foods” if—

(1) the option is requested by the eligible school food authority;

(2) the Secretary determines that the option will reduce Federal and State administrative costs; and

(3) the option will provide the eligible school food authority with greater flexibility to purchase locally and regionally produced foods.

(b) **FARM-TO-SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish not less than 10 farm-to-school demonstration programs under which school food authorities, agricultural producers producing for local and regional markets, and other farm-to-school stakeholders collaborate with the Agricultural Marketing Service to obtain food for school meals from local agricultural producers rather than through other agricultural and food programs of the Secretary.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A demonstration program under this subsection shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

(i) facilitate and increase the purchase of unprocessed and minimally processed locally and regionally produced agricultural commodities and products to be served in school meal programs;

(ii) test methods to improve procurement, transportation, and meal preparation processes;

(iii) assess whether administrative costs can be saved through increased school authority flexibility to source locally and regionally produced agricultural commodities and foods; and

(iv) undertake rigorous evaluation and share information about results, including cost savings, with the Department of Agriculture, school food authorities, agricultural producers producing for local and regional markets, and the general public.

(B) **PLANS.**—The Secretary shall require demonstration project participants to provide plans that detail compliance with this subsection.

(3) **DURATION.**—The Secretary shall determine the appropriate period of time for each demonstration program.

(4) **COORDINATION.**—The Secretary shall coordinate among relevant agencies of the Department of Agriculture and nongovernmental organizations with appropriate expertise to facilitate the provision of training and technical assistance necessary to the successful implementation of demonstration programs under this subsection.

(5) **DIVERSITY AND BALANCE.**—In establishing the demonstration programs under this subsection, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure—

(A) geographical diversity;

(B) that at least ½ of the demonstration programs are completed in collaboration with school food authorities with relatively small annual commodity entitlements, as determined by the Secretary;

(C) at least ½ of demonstration programs are completed in rural or tribal communities; and

(D) equitable treatment of school food authorities with a high percentage of students participating in the free or reduced price lunch program under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

SA 2460. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 11001, after subsection (b) insert the following:

(c) **SUPPLEMENTAL, WEATHER INDEX-BASED INSURANCE.**—Section 508(c) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(11) **SUPPLEMENTAL, WEATHER INDEX-BASED INSURANCE.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Corporation may consider and approve applications, consistent with procedures for products submitted under subsection (h), submitted by private companies to provide supplemental, weather index-based insurance products that are not reinsured under this subtitle to producers as an alternative to the coverage provided under this section to determine whether the products can provide enhanced coverage for producers than is otherwise available under this section.

“(B) **PAYMENT OF PORTION OF PREMIUM BY CORPORATION.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (F), if the Corporation determines that supplemental, weather index-based insurance products offered by private companies meet the conditions described in subparagraph (A), the Corporation may pay a portion of the premium for a producer to purchase a product that is not reinsured under this subtitle from a private company for an equivalent level of coverage under this section.

“(ii) **ADMINISTRATION.**—Any premium assistance under clause (i)—

“(I) shall be determined by the Corporation; and

“(II) may be based on, as determined by the Corporation—

“(aa) a percentage of premium;

“(bb) a percentage of expected loss determined pursuant to a reasonable actuarial methodology; or

“(cc) a fixed dollar amount per acre.

“(C) **ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS.**—Before providing premium assistance to producers to purchase supplemental, index-based coverage from a private company under this paragraph, the Corporation shall verify that the private company—

“(i) has adequate experience developing and managing similar index-based products for crop producers (including adequate resources, experience, and assets) or sufficient reinsurance, to meet the obligations of the private company under this paragraph;

“(ii) has adequate experience to sell and administer index-based or similar products;

“(iii) possesses a sufficient insurance credit rating from an appropriate credit rating bureau; and

“(iv) has approval from each State in which the company intends to make the supplemental insurance products of the company available.

“(D) **OVERSIGHT.**—The Corporation shall develop and publish procedures to administer a supplemental, index-based insurance option for producers under this paragraph that—

“(i) require each applicable private company to report sales, acreage and claim data,

and any other data the Corporation determines to be appropriate, to allow the Corporation to evaluate product pricing and performance;

“(ii) allow each participating private company exclusive rights, ownership of intellectual property, and protection of confidential information with respect to the insurance offered under this paragraph; and

“(iii) contain such other requirements as the Corporation determines necessary to ensure that—

“(I) the interests of producers are protected; and

“(II) the program operates in an actuarially sound manner.

“(E) **SELECTION LIMITATION.**—A producer shall be allowed to select supplemental coverage annually and may not select both weather index-based coverage under this paragraph and any other supplemental coverage offered under other provisions of this section.

“(F) **BASELINE SAVINGS.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The Corporation may not offer premium assistance for producers to purchase private company weather index-based supplemental coverage under this paragraph unless the Corporation determines that offering private company coverage will result in savings against baseline spending estimates for the supplemental coverage option provided by the Office of Management and Budget.

“(ii) **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.**—In addition to any other available funds, the Corporation shall use savings derived from offering supplemental coverage from private companies to cover administrative costs associated with evaluating and approving private company coverage under this subsection.”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public an addition to a previously announced hearing before the Subcommittee on National Parks. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 27, 2012, at 3 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

In addition to the other measures previously announced, the Committee will also consider:

S. 3078, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the United States on June 6, 1944, the morning of D-Day.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 6150, or by email to Jake_Mccook@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Sara Tucker (202) 224-6224 or Jake McCook (202) 224-9313.