

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2179, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide social service agencies with the resources to provide services to meet the urgent needs of Holocaust survivors to age in place with dignity, comfort, security, and quality of life.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to extend the transfer of Electronic Travel Authorization System fees from the Travel Promotion Fund to the Corporation for Travel Promotion (Brand USA) through fiscal year 2027, and for other purposes.

S. 2206

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2206, a bill to express the sense of Congress regarding restoration and maintenance of the Mardasson Memorial in Bastogne, Belgium.

S. 2229

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2229, a bill to protect consumers from deceptive practices with respect to online booking of hotel reservations, and for other purposes.

S. 2322

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 2322, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to allow for the retirement of certain animals used in Federal research.

S. 2417

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2417, a bill to provide for payment of proceeds from savings bonds to a State with title to such bonds pursuant to the judgment of a court.

S. 2463

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2463, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for regulation and taxation of electronic cigarettes and alternative nicotine products.

S. RES. 205

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 205, a resolution expressing the gratitude of the Senate for

the people who operate or support diaper banks and diaper distribution programs in their local communities.

S. RES. 252

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 252, a resolution designating September 2019 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 252, *supra*.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 309—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL VOTING RIGHTS MONTH”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 309

Whereas voting is one of the single most important rights that can be exercised in a democracy;

Whereas, over the course of history, various voter suppression laws in the United States have hindered, and even prohibited, certain individuals and groups from exercising the right to vote;

Whereas, during the 19th and early 20th centuries, Native Americans and people who were born to United States citizens abroad, people who spoke a language other than English, and people who were formerly subjected to slavery were denied full citizenship and prevented from voting by English literacy tests;

Whereas, since the 1870s, minority groups such as African Americans in the South have suffered from the oppressive effects of Jim Crow laws designed to prevent political, economic, and social mobility;

Whereas African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and other underrepresented voters were subject to violence, poll taxes, literacy tests, all-White primaries, property ownership tests, and grandfather clauses;

Whereas members of the aforementioned groups and others are currently, in some cases, subject to intimidation, voter roll purges, bans on former prisoners from voting, and financial barriers that act effectively as modern day poll taxes;

Whereas, in 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) to protect the right of African Americans and other traditionally disenfranchised groups to vote, among other reasons;

Whereas, in 2013, the Supreme Court of the United States invalidated section 4 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, dismantling the preclearance formula provision in that Act

that protected voters in States and localities that historically have suppressed the right of minorities to vote;

Whereas, since the invalidation of the preclearance formula provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, gerrymandered districts in many States have gone unchallenged or have become less likely to be invalidated by the courts;

Whereas these gerrymandered districts have been found to have a discriminatory impact on traditionally disenfranchised minorities through tactics that include “cracking”, diluting the voting power of minorities across many districts, and “packing”, concentrating minority voters’ power in one district to reduce their voting power in other districts;

Whereas the courts have found the congressional and, in some cases, State legislative district maps, in Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Wisconsin to be gerrymandered districts that were created to favor some groups over others;

Whereas the decision of the Supreme Court in *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013), calls on Congress to update the formula in the Voting Rights Act of 1965;

Whereas some form of a restrictive voting law has been instituted in 22 States since 2013;

Whereas these restrictive voting laws encompass cutbacks in early voting, voter roll purges, placement of faulty equipment in minority communities, requirement of photo identification—the procurement of which amounts to a modern day poll tax, and the elimination of same-day registration;

Whereas these changes could outright disenfranchise or make voting much more difficult for more than 80,000,000 minority, elderly, poor, and disabled voters, among other groups;

Whereas, in 2016, discriminatory laws in North Carolina, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Texas were ruled to violate voters’ rights and overturned by the courts;

Whereas there is much more work to be done to ensure all citizens of the United States have the right to vote;

Whereas National Voter Registration Day is September 25; and

Whereas September 2019 would be an appropriate month to designate as “National Voting Rights Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019 as “National Voting Rights Month”;

(2) encourages all people in the United States to uphold the right of every citizen to exercise the sacred and fundamental right to vote;

(3) encourages Congress to pass—

(A) the For the People Act of 2019 (S. 949 and H.R. 1 of the 116th Congress), to increase voters’ access to the ballot, prohibit the use of deceptive practices to intimidate voters, end gerrymandering, create automatic voter registration, limit the power of restrictive voter identification laws, make critical investments in election infrastructure and technology, and address corruption in campaign finance and ethics;

(B) the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019 (S. 561 and H.R. 4 of the 116th Congress), to restore the protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) that prohibit discriminatory voting practices, remove barriers to voting, and provide protections for minority voters in States with a history of voting discrimination;

(C) the Securing America’s Federal Elections Act, or the SAFE Act (S. 2238 and H.R. 2722 of the 116th Congress), to provide funding for States to improve the administration

of elections, including by enhancing technology and election security, replacing antiquated voting systems, and meeting new standards for administering elections; and

(D) other voting rights legislation that seeks to advance voting rights and protect elections in the United States;

(4) recommends that public schools and universities in the United States develop an academic curriculum that educates students about—

(A) the importance of voting, how to register to vote, where to vote, and the different forms of voting;

(B) the history of voter suppression in the United States before the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965;

(C) current issues relating to laws passed after 1965 that restrict the right to vote; and

(D) any actions taken by State and Federal Government officials since passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that have created barriers to the exercise of the right to vote;

(5) encourages the United States Postal Service to issue a special Fannie Lou Hamer stamp during the month of September to remind people in the United States that ordinary citizens risked their lives, marched, and participated in the great democracy of the United States so that all citizens would have the fundamental right to vote; and

(6) invites Congress to allocate the requisite funds for public service announcements on television, radio, newspapers, magazines, social media, billboards, buses, and other forms of media to remind people in the United States when elections are being held and to urge people to get out and vote.

SENATE RESOLUTION 310—RECOGNIZING THE SEMI-QUINCENTENNIAL OF THE COMMUNITY OF WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 310

Whereas 2019 marks 250 years since the September in which pioneer Colonel Ebenezer Zane used an axe to notch, girdle, and strike his name into a gathering of trees, marking a plot of land through tomahawk rights;

Whereas, in the spring of 1770, Zane returned with his brothers, Jonathan and Silas, to inhabit the clearing he created above the mouth of Wheeling Creek and they, along with the families who soon followed, formed the nucleus of the community that would become the city of Wheeling;

Whereas, in 1782, Native American and British forces attacked Fort Henry in Wheeling to drive out colonial settlers;

Whereas the ammunition supply at Fort Henry was exhausted, and Betty Zane courageously volunteered to retrieve gunpowder from the Zane family homestead, gathered the gunpowder in a tablecloth, and safely returned, resulting in a victory for the citizens of Wheeling;

Whereas, in 1810, Conrad Cotts, an experienced miner from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, opened the first commercial coal mine in the area that is now West Virginia in Wheeling;

Whereas the territory of Wheeling was originally part of the Commonwealth of Virginia;

Whereas the First Wheeling Convention took place from May 13 to May 15, 1861, at West Virginia Independence Hall, located at the corner of 16th Street and Market Street;

Whereas, on May 23, 1861, voters in Virginia ratified the Secession Ordinance to

leave the United States and join the Confederacy;

Whereas, in June 1861, pro-Union Virginians met for the Second Wheeling Convention and—

(1) declared all State offices in Virginia vacant and all acts of the General Assembly to be null and void, thus creating the Restored Government of Virginia that sought to rebuild ties with the Union; and

(2) installed Wheeling as the provisional capital;

Whereas, on October 24, 1861, residents of the area that is now West Virginia voted to approve statehood for West Virginia;

Whereas, on April 20, 1863, during the middle of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation on the admission of West Virginia to the Union;

Whereas the city of Wheeling became the first capital of the State of West Virginia, and Wheeling served intermittently as the capital until Charleston was selected by a vote of the citizens of the State;

Whereas the city of Wheeling served as an early transportation epicenter, connecting the Ohio River with the Potomac River via the National Road, opening further expansion to the West;

Whereas “Nail City” became an early nickname for Wheeling, reflecting the strong steel industry and the growing manufacturing presence of the State in the region;

Whereas the Wheeling Suspension Bridge was once the longest suspension bridge in the world, and construction mechanisms of the Wheeling Suspension Bridge were used while building the Brooklyn Bridge in New York;

Whereas, on September 23, 1952, General Dwight D. Eisenhower telegraphed Senator Richard M. Nixon, requesting to meet face-to-face the following day in Wheeling where General Eisenhower was holding a presidential campaign rally and would ultimately approve of Senator Nixon as the Republican nominee for Vice President;

Whereas the Wheeling Jamboree, utilizing local country music talent, was first aired on WWVA at 11 p.m. on Saturday, January 7, 1933, revolutionizing the way radio appealed to listeners;

Whereas participants of the Ogden Newspapers Half Marathon run 13.1 miles on one of the toughest courses in the United States;

Whereas the Wheeling Nailers, a member of the East Coast Hockey League and an affiliate of the Pittsburgh Penguins, is the oldest surviving minor league franchise below the American Hockey League;

Whereas the Winter Festival of Lights at the Oglebay Resort in Wheeling attracts more than 1,000,000 visitors annually for one of the best holiday light shows in the United States; and

Whereas DiCarlo's Pizza took advantage of the post-World War II economic boom and expanded across the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia, becoming famous for cold cheese piled on top of a rectangular pizza slice: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the semiquincentennial of the community of Wheeling, West Virginia; and

(2) encourages the citizens of Wheeling to observe and celebrate the semiquincentennial with appropriate ceremonies to commemorate this historic occasion.

SENATE RESOLUTION 311—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17 AS “PATRIOT WEEK”

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 311

Whereas the events that led to the signing of the Constitution of the United States by the delegates to the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 1787, have significance for every citizen of the United States and are honored in public schools across the United States on Constitution Day, which is September 17 of each year;

Whereas the rule of law, the social compact, democracy, liberty, equality, and unalienable human rights are the essential values upon which the United States flourishes;

Whereas diversity is one of the greatest strengths of the United States, and the motto inscribed on the Great Seal of the United States, “E pluribus unum”, Latin for “out of many, one”, symbolizes that individuals in the United States from all walks of life are unified by shared values;

Whereas exceptional, visionary, and indispensable individuals such as Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry, John Adams, John Marshall, George Washington, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison founded or advanced the United States;

Whereas the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions signed in Seneca Falls, New York, the Gettysburg Address, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the “I Have a Dream” speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr., express sentiments that have advanced liberty in the United States; and

Whereas the Bennington ('76) flag, the Betsy Ross flag, the current flag of the United States, the flag of the women's suffrage movement, the Union (Fort Sumter) flag, the Gadsden flag, and the flags of the States are physical symbols of the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as “Patriot Week”;;

(2) recognizes that understanding the history of the United States and the first principles of the United States is indispensable to the survival of the United States as a free people;

(3) acknowledges, in great reverence to the victims of the September 11, 2001, attacks, that citizens of the United States should take time to honor the first principles, founders, documents, and symbols of their history;

(4) recognizes that each generation should renew the spirit of the United States based on the first principles, historical figures, founding documents, and symbols of the United States; and

(5) encourages citizens, schools and other educational institutions, and Federal, State, and local governments and their agencies to recognize and participate in Patriot Week by honoring, celebrating, and promoting the study of the history of the United States so that all people of the United States may offer the reverence that is due to the free republic.