

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 146

Designating June 20, 2007, as “American Eagle Day”, and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the American bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 12, 2007

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ALLARD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CORKER, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. GREGG, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

APRIL 25, 2007

Reported by Mr. LEAHY, without amendment

MAY 1, 2007

Considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating June 20, 2007, as “American Eagle Day”, and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the American bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

Whereas, the bald eagle was designated as the national emblem of the United States on June 20, 1782, by our country’s Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress;

Whereas, the bald eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and the seals of the President and Vice President;

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

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

Whereas, the bald eagle is an inspiring symbol of the American spirit of freedom and democracy;

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

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

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

Whereas, by 1963, the number of nesting pairs of bald eagles in the lower 48 States had dropped to about 417;

Whereas, the bald eagle was first listed as an endangered species in 1967 under the Endangered Species Preservation Act, the Federal law that preceded the Endangered Species Act of 1973;

Whereas, caring and concerned citizens of the United States in the private and public sectors banded together to save, and help ensure the protection of, bald eagles;

Whereas, in 1995, as a result of the efforts of those caring and concerned citizens, bald eagles were removed from the “endangered” species list and upgraded to the less imperiled “threatened” status under the Endangered Species Act of 1973;

Whereas, by 2006, the number of bald eagles in the lower 48 States had increased to approximately 7,000 to 8,000 nesting pairs;

Whereas, the administration is likely to officially delist the bald eagle from both the “endangered” and “threatened” species lists under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, with a final decision expected no later than June 29, 2007;

Whereas, if delisted under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, bald eagles should be provided strong protection under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act;

Whereas, bald eagles would have been permanently extinct if not for vigilant conservation efforts of concerned citizens and strict protection laws;

Whereas, the dramatic recovery of the bald eagle population is an endangered species success story and an inspirational example for other wildlife and natural resource conservation efforts around the world;

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

Whereas, the sustained recovery of the bald eagle population will require the continuation of recovery, management, education, and public awareness programs, to ensure that the population and habitat of bald eagles will remain healthy and secure for future generations: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates June 20, 2007, as “American
3 Eagle Day”; and

4 (2) encourages—

5 (A) educational entities, organizations,
6 businesses, conservation groups, and govern-
7 ment agencies with a shared interest in con-
8 serving endangered species to collaborate on
9 education information for use in schools; and

10 (B) the people of the United States to ob-
11 serve American Eagle Day with appropriate
12 ceremonies and other activities.

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