

SENATE RESOLUTION 550—COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF “THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER”

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

S. RES. 550

Whereas during the War of 1812, Great Britain turned its full attention to the war effort in North America following its defeat of Napoleon's armies on the European continent in April 1814;

Whereas British forces dealt a devastating blow to the forces of the United States at the Battle of Bladensburg and were, as a consequence, able to march into Washington, D.C. unopposed and, on August 24, 1814, burn the United States Capitol Building, the Executive Mansion, now known as the White House, and other government buildings;

Whereas on September 13, 1814, with the fate of the Nation uncertain, Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland, withstood 25 hours of bombardment by the British Royal Navy;

Whereas on the following morning, the soldiers of Fort McHenry hoisted an enormous American flag, the sight of which inspired Francis Scott Key to write a poem he titled “The Star-Spangled Banner”;

Whereas on December 24, 1814, American and British commissioners signed the Treaty of Ghent, which would be ratified the following February, bringing the War of 1812 to an end and firmly establishing the United States of America as a sovereign nation within the family of nations;

Whereas on March 3, 1931, President Herbert Hoover signed Public Law 71-823, designating “The Star-Spangled Banner” as the national anthem of the United States;

Whereas “The Star-Spangled Banner” was written to celebrate American courage at a time when the torch of liberty looked as if it were about to be extinguished;

Whereas singing the national anthem at large public gatherings, such as sporting events, brings patriotic unity to the great melting pot known as the United States of America;

Whereas our national anthem has become an enduring symbol of “the land of the free and the home of the brave”;

Whereas the people of the United States are celebrating the bicentennial of “The Star-Spangled Banner” with a variety of commemorative events nationwide during the week of September 10 through 16, 2014, including the “O Say Can You See! Star-Spangled Spectacular” festival in Baltimore on September 13, 2014, which included concerts and an extraordinary fireworks display over Fort McHenry and the Baltimore harbor; and

Whereas it is especially important to educate young people and new citizens of the United States about the history and meaning of the national anthem: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate designates the period from September 2014 through September 2015 as the “Year of National Thanksgiving for ‘The Star-Spangled Banner’”;

(2) the Senate encourages all State and local governments and the people of the United States to observe this period of thanksgiving with appropriate ceremonies, activities, educational outreach, and reflection; and

(3) it is the sense of the Senate that “The Star-Spangled Banner” shall retain all current verses and remain our national anthem in perpetuity.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3812. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3813. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3814. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3815. Mr. BOOZMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3816. Mr. BOOZMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3817. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3818. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3819. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3820. Ms. HEITKAMP (for Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. COBURN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Mr. WARNER)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4194, to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements.

SA 3821. Ms. HEITKAMP (for Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. TESTER)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2117, to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

SA 3822. Ms. HEITKAMP (for Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2440, to expand and extend the program to improve permit coordination by the Bureau of Land Management, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3812. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title V, add the following:

SEC. 562. AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARD OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR TO WILLIAM SHEMIN FOR ACTS OF VALOR DURING WORLD WAR I.

(a) WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding the time limitations specified in section 3744 of title 10, United States Code, or any other time limitation with respect to the awarding of certain medals to persons who served in the Armed Forces, the

President may award the Medal of Honor under section 3741 of such title to William Shemin for the acts of valor during World War I described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTS OF VALOR DESCRIBED.—The acts of valor referred to in subsection (a) are the actions of William Shemin while serving as a Rifleman with G Company, 2d Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, 4th Division, American Expeditionary Forces, in connection with combat operations against an armed enemy on the Vesle River, near Bazoches, France, from August 7 to August 9, 1918, during World War I for which he was originally awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

SA 3813. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XXXV, add the following:

SEC. 3502. AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT A GIFT FROM THE USMMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to section 51315 of title 46, United States Code, the Maritime Administrator may accept a gift of money from the United States Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc. (also known as the USMMA Alumni Association and Foundation) for the purpose of renovating Melville Hall on the campus of the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

(b) CONTRACT.—If the Maritime Administrator accepts a gift authorized by subsection (a), the Administrator shall enter into a contract with the United States Merchant Marine Alumni Foundation, Inc. for the operation of Melville Hall and for the purpose of official academy functions, third party catering functions, industry events, and conferences.

SA 3814. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. INTEGRATED PLAN ON SPACE LAUNCH ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

(a) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall jointly, in coordination with the National Security Council, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the heads of other appropriate agencies of the Federal Government, develop a plan (to be known as the “Integrated Federal Space Launch Plan”) to achieve the effective planning, coordination, and execution of the civilian and national security space launch activities of the Federal Government in order to ensure that the mission needs of the Federal Government for reliable, timely, and affordable access to space are met in a cost-effective manner.

(b) ELEMENTS OF PLAN.—The plan developed under subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following: