

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (viii), by adding “or” at the end; and

(B) by striking clause (x); and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) for purposes of providing services to veterans (as defined in section 101 of title 38), to an organization whose—

“(i) membership comprises substantially veterans; and

“(ii) representatives are recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 5902 of title 38.”.

OBSERVING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF ROSA PARKS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 618 and the Senate proceed to its immediate 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. 618) observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks and commemorating her legacy.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, over a half century ago, Rosa Parks sparked a revolution in American race relations when she decided that she would no longer tolerate the humiliation and demoralization of racial segregation on a bus. The strength and spirit of this courageous woman captured the consciousness of not only the American people but the entire world. Her stand on that December day in 1955 was not an isolated incident but part of a lifetime of struggle for equality and justice. Twelve years earlier, in 1943, Rosa Parks had been arrested for violating another one of the city's bus related segregation laws requiring blacks to pay their fares at the front of the bus then get off of the bus and re-board from the rear of the bus. The driver of that bus was the same driver with whom she would have her confrontation years later.

Rosa Parks, by her quiet courage, symbolizes all that is vital about non-violent protest, as she endured threats of death and persisted as an advocate for the simple, basic lessons she taught the Nation and from which the Nation has benefitted immeasurably. The bus boycott which Rosa Parks began was the beginning of an American revolution that elevated the status of African Americans nationwide and introduced to the world a young leader who would one day have a national holiday declared in his honor, the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

February 4, 2013, marks the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Rosa Parks. In recognition of this occasion, I am immensely proud to be joined by 56 bipartisan cosponsors of S. Res. 618, which was just adopted unanimously by the

Senate, observing the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks and commemorating her legacy. I am especially pleased to have had the input of Senators STABENOW, SESSIONS, and ALEXANDER in the crafting of this resolution, which is befitting one who so significantly contributed to the breaking down the barriers of legal discrimination against African Americans, and equality for us all.

Although Rosa Parks will be forever associated with one day in Montgomery, AL, she lived most of her life in my home state of Michigan, and we proudly claim her as our own. She continued to dedicate her life to advancing equal opportunity and to educating our youth about the past struggles for freedom, from slavery up to the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

In 1987, Rosa Parks and Elaine Steele co-founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development. Its primary focus has been working with young people from across the country and the world as part of the “Pathways to Freedom” program. With the work of the Institute, we can truly say that in addition to having played a major role in shaping America's past and present, Rosa Parks is continuing to help shape America's future.

In the spirit of the enormous contributions of Rosa Parks to this Nation, the Henry Ford Museum of Dearborn, MI will commemorate the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks by calling for a national day of courage; and sponsoring a program that highlights her contributions to the civil rights movement. The activities will include a day-long celebration, with both virtual and on-site activities featuring nationally-recognized speakers, musical and dramatic interpretative performances, a panel presentation of “Rosa's Story” and a reading of the tale “Quiet Strength,” and will feature the actual bus on which Rosa Parks sat as the centerpiece in commemorating Rosa Parks' extraordinary life and accomplishments, and affording everyone the opportunity to board the bus and sit in the seat that Rosa Parks refused to give up.

Mr. President, in November of 2005, upon her passing, Rosa Parks became the first woman in the history of the United States to lie in honor in the Capitol Rotunda. And, a few years earlier on June 15, 1999, Rosa Parks was presented with the highest honor of Congress, the Congressional Gold Medal, of which I was pleased to co-author. I was also pleased to be a part of the effort in directing the Architect of the Capitol to commission a statue of Rosa Parks, which will soon be placed in the U.S. Capitol, making her the second African American woman to receive such an honor.

Mr. President, the cosponsors of the resolution are: Senators STABENOW, SESSIONS, ALEXANDER, LANDRIEU, COCHRAN, HARKIN, SHELBY, CORNYN, BOXER, MURRAY, COBURN, KERRY, HUTCHISON, GILLIBRAND, MR. LEAHY, SANDERS,

REID, MIKULSKI, DURBIN, PRYOR, NELSON of Florida, BROWN of Ohio, LIEBERMAN, Mr. CONRAD, LAUTENBERG, KOHL, CANTWELL, MCCASKILL, WYDEN, COONS, BAUCUS, WHITEHOUSE, MANCHIN, BENNET, CARDIN, HAGAN, CASEY, BEGICH, MENENDEZ, WARNER, UDALL of New Mexico, KLOBUCHAR, INOUE, CORKER, JOHNSON of South Dakota, FRANKEN, ROCKEFELLER, UDALL of Colorado, BLUMENTHAL, AKAKA, REED, SHAHEEN, WEBB, MCCAIN, LUGAR, and GRASSLEY.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate will agree to S. Res. 618, a resolution observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks, and commemorating her legacy. It is hard to believe that 57 years have passed since Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus, a heroic act for a young woman from Tuskegee, AL, who joined so many in the fight for civil rights. I am proud of the progress this country has made toward equality for all, in large part thanks to the work and inspiration of leaders like Rosa Parks, although we as a Nation have more work to do.

Rosa's brave act of defiance inspired a city-wide boycott and national movement, and she remains an important symbol of the civil rights movement to this day. Her legacy reminds Vermonters and Americans all over the country that one brave voice or action can shine a light on injustice and challenge society to accept nothing less than freedom and equality for all mankind.

In 2006 I was proud to work to reauthorize one of the most important civil rights laws in our history and to have that voting rights legislation bare Rosa Parks' name. Unfortunately, some are trying to overturn that protective and important law despite the continuing threat to the right to vote. As we commemorate her birth 100 years ago, I hope we can all agree that threats to civil rights are not a relic of the past. To honor Rosa Parks' memory, we must continue to fight to ensure that all Americans can vote and have their vote counted. I thank Senator LEVIN for submitting this resolution and am proud to join him in commemorating the legacy of Rosa Parks.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. 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 any statements be placed in the RECORD.

The resolution (S. Res. 618) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 618

Whereas Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama, the first child of James and Leona (Edwards) McCauley;

Whereas Rosa Parks dedicated her life to the cause of universal human rights and truly embodied the love of humanity and freedom;

Whereas Rosa Parks was arrested on December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, for

refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a White man, and her stand for equal rights became legendary;

Whereas news of the arrest of Rosa Parks resulted in approximately 42,000 African-Americans boycotting Montgomery buses for 381 days, beginning on December 5, 1955, until the bus segregation law was changed on December 21, 1956;

Whereas the United States Supreme Court ruled on November 13, 1956, that the Montgomery segregation law was unconstitutional, and on December 20, 1956, Montgomery officials were ordered to desegregate buses;

Whereas the civil rights movement led to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352; 78 Stat. 241), which broke down the barrier of legal discrimination against African-Americans and made equality before the law a reality for all people of the United States;

Whereas Rosa Parks has been honored as the "first lady of civil rights" and the "mother of the freedom movement", and her quiet dignity ignited the most significant social movement in the history of the United States;

Whereas, in 1987, Rosa Parks and her close associate Elaine Steele cofounded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development to motivate and direct youth to achieve their highest potential through Rosa Parks' philosophy of "quiet strength" and cross-cultural exposure for nurturing a global and inclusive perspective;

Whereas Rosa Parks was the recipient of many awards and accolades for her efforts on behalf of racial harmony, including the Congressional Gold Medal, the Spingarn Award, which is the highest honor of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for civil rights contributions, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the highest civilian honor in the United States, and was named one of the 20 most influential and iconic figures of the 20th century;

Whereas Rosa Parks sparked one of the largest movements in the United States against racial segregation, and by her quiet courage symbolizes all that is vital about nonviolent protest because of the way she endured threats of death and persisted as an advocate for the basic lessons she taught the people of the United States;

Whereas Rosa Parks and her husband Raymond Parks relocated to Michigan in 1957, and remained in Michigan until the death of Rosa Parks on October 24, 2005;

Whereas, on Tuesday, October 26, 2005 the United States Senate adopted a Resolution expressing its condolences on the passing of Rosa Parks, and honored her life and accomplishments;

Whereas, in recognition of the historic contributions of Rosa Parks, her remains were placed in the rotunda of the Capitol from October 30 to October 31, 2005, so that the people of the United States could pay their last respects to this great American;

Whereas, in November 2005, Congress authorized the Joint Committee on the Library to procure a statue of Rosa Parks to be placed in the Capitol;

Whereas the United States Postal Service will issue a stamp in February 2013 to honor Rosa Parks and her courage to act at a pivotal moment in the civil rights movement;

Whereas, the bus on which Rosa Parks sparked a new era in the American quest for freedom and equality is one of the most significant artifacts of the American civil rights movement and is on permanent display in the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan;

Whereas, on February 4, 2013, the Henry Ford Museum, will commemorate the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks by calling for a National Day of Courage and sponsoring a pro-

gram that highlights her contributions to the civil rights movement, including a day-long celebration, with both virtual and on-site activities featuring nationally recognized speakers, musical and dramatic interpretative performances, a panel presentation of "Rosa's Story" and a reading of the tale "Quiet Strength", featuring the actual bus on which Rosa Parks sat as the centerpiece in commemorating Rosa Parks' extraordinary life and accomplishments, and affording everyone the opportunity to board the bus and sit in the seat that Rosa Parks refused to give up; and

Whereas the Rosa Parks Museum at Troy University and the Mobile Studio will commemorate the birthday of Rosa Parks with the 100th Birthday Wishes Project, culminating on February 4, 2013, with a 100th birthday celebration at the Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts in Montgomery, Alabama, where 2,000 birthday wishes submitted by individuals throughout the United States will be transformed into 200 graphic messages: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) observes the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks; and

(2) commemorates the legacy of Rosa Parks to inspire all people of the United States to stand up for freedom and the principles of the Constitution.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask that Senator WEBB be added as a cosponsor.

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

OPENING OF THE UNITED STATES FREEDOM PAVILION

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 625 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 625) recognizing the January 12, 2013, opening of the United States Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, and supporting plans for other educational pavilions and initiatives.

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

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. 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 any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 625) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 625

Whereas historians Stephen E. Ambrose and Gordon H. "Nick" Mueller, among others, founded the National D-Day Museum on June 6, 2000;

Whereas section 8134(c) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-87; 117 Stat. 1105) designated the National D-Day Museum as "America's National World War II Museum";

Whereas the National World War II Museum advances the mission of educating the public about the experience of the United States in World War II, covering all branches of the Armed Forces and the Merchant Marine, and documenting and highlighting activities on both the battlefield and home front;

Whereas the exhibits and programs of the National World War II Museum portray why the War occurred, how the War was won, and what the War means today, and celebrate the spirit of the United States and enduring values displayed during the War;

Whereas the National World War II Museum emphasizes the diverse nature of the war effort of the United States, reflecting the contributions of women, African-Americans, Japanese-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and other groups that have been neglected in many accounts of World War II;

Whereas the 12,000 landing craft designed and built by Higgins Industries in New Orleans made amphibious invasions possible and carried United States soldiers ashore in every theatre and campaign during the War;

Whereas President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the former Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe, credited Andrew Jackson Higgins, the chief executive officer of Higgins Industries, as the "man who won the war for us," in a 1960s conversation with the preeminent historian Stephen E. Ambrose, leading Ambrose to initiate plans for the National World War II Museum;

Whereas the National D-Day Museum, now known as the "National World War II Museum", has made great strides in the development of the facilities, exhibits, and programs at the Museum;

Whereas the National World War II Museum, since the grand opening on June 6, 2000, which was the 56th anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Normandy, France, has attracted more than 3,000,000 visitors from across the United States and around the world, and has reached millions more through Internet-based and other distance learning programs;

Whereas World War II veterans and home front supporters, recognized as the "greatest generation" because of the sacrifices of the veterans and home front supporters at a pivotal time in United States history, are passing away at a rapid rate, creating an urgent need to preserve the stories, and to pay tribute to the service of the veterans and home front supporters;

Whereas Congress recognizes the need to preserve forever the knowledge and history of the most decisive achievement of the United States during the 20th century and to portray that history to citizens, scholars, visitors, and school children for generations to come;

Whereas Congress appropriated funds in 1992 to authorize the design and construction of the National D-Day Museum to commemorate the epic 1944 Normandy invasion, and appropriated additional funds in 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2009 to help expand the Museum to cover the entire experience of the United States in World War II, and the transformatonal impact on the United States and the world;

Whereas the World War II Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC, will always be the symbolic memorial where people come to remember the sacrifices made during World War II;

Whereas the National World War II Museum in New Orleans will always be the educational institution where people come to learn about the monumental struggle by the United States against would-be oppressors, so that future generations can understand