

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am once again introducing, along with my colleagues Senator WHITEHOUSE, Senator BLUMENTHAL, and Senator MURPHY, legislation to designate river segments within the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Following more than three years of intense study, this legislation would formally recognize the recreational, natural, and historical qualities of portions of the Beaver, Chipuxet, Green Fall-Ashaway, Pawcatuck, Queen-Usquepaugh, Shunock, and Wood Rivers that flow through Rhode Island and Connecticut while providing access to Federal resources and promoting strong partnerships for their restoration and protection.

The Wood-Pawcatuck watershed is a National treasure that not only holds natural and scenic value, but also is an important economic driver for the area. Indeed, the 12 local river communities experience direct economic benefits from their proximity to these rivers through increased recreation and tourism. The watershed provides many opportunities for visitors to explore history and experience nature, including viewing early industrial mill ruins, trout fishing, bird watching, and kayaking.

I have long been a supporter of protecting and restoring these special rivers, which is why I sponsored the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Protection Act in 2013. The process that was initiated by that law has been a critical tool for bringing together stakeholders from Rhode Island and Connecticut including representatives from State agencies, local governments, and conservation groups in order to develop a collaborative path forward. The resulting Stewardship Plan, which has been formally adopted by the study committee and is supported by all twelve local river communities, builds upon currently existing efforts to preserve and manage the river ecosystems while also considering what steps will need to be taken collectively in the future in order to protect them.

I would like to commend Representatives LANGEVIN, CICILLINE, and COURTNEY for again introducing companion legislation. In October 2018 we commemorated the 50th anniversary of the landmark Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and I am proud that after all these years we are continuing our work to protect such extraordinary places. I look forward to working with all of my colleagues to pass this legislation so that we can preserve the rivers of the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

## SENATE RESOLUTION 10—HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD ARVIN OVERTON

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 10

Whereas, on May 11, 1906, Richard Arvin Overton was born to Gentry Overton, Sr., and Elizabeth “Lizzie” Overton in Bastrop County, Texas;

Whereas, in 1940, Richard Arvin Overton enlisted in the Army and began his military service at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas;

Whereas, from 1942 to 1945, Richard Arvin Overton bravely served in the Pacific theater, including in Guam, Palau, and Iwo Jima, with the 1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion, an all-African American unit, until the conclusion of World War II;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton attained the rank of corporal in the Army;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton earned the Combat Infantry Badge, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Expert Rifle Marksmanship Badge;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton returned to Austin, Texas, after the end of World War II and resided there until his death;

Whereas, on November 11, 2013, Richard Arvin Overton was honored by former President Barack Obama at Arlington National Cemetery for his courage and commitment to service in combat zones such as Pearl Harbor, the Marshall Islands, Guam, Palau, and Iwo Jima;

Whereas, on January 3, 2015, Richard Arvin Overton represented The Greatest Generation at the 2015 United States Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas;

Whereas, on May 3, 2016, Richard Arvin Overton became the oldest surviving veteran of the Armed Forces after the death of Frank Levington, a fellow World War II veteran;

Whereas, on May 11, 2016, Richard Arvin Overton attained 110 years of age and became a supercentenarian;

Whereas, in Austin, Texas, May 11th of each year is designated as “Richard Overton Day” in honor of Richard Arvin Overton’s birthday;

Whereas, in 2017, the city of Austin, Texas, officially renamed the street on which Richard Arvin Overton resided to “Richard Overton Avenue”;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton died on December 27, 2018;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton will be laid to rest with full military honors at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, Texas; and

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton is a United States hero who exemplified strength, sacrifice, and service to the country: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family of Richard Arvin Overton on the occasion of his death;

(2) honors the life of Richard Arvin Overton and his service to the United States;

(3) honors and, on behalf of the United States, expresses deep appreciation for the outstanding and important service of Richard Arvin Overton to the United States; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives and trans-

mit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of Richard Arvin Overton.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 11—HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORT SILL IN LAWTON, OKLAHOMA

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 11

Whereas January 8, 2019, marks the 150th anniversary of Fort Sill, a military installation operating in the Lawton-Fort Sill region of Oklahoma;

Whereas the site of Fort Sill was staked out on January 8, 1869, by Major General Philip H. Sheridan, and the garrison was first called “Camp Wichita”;

Whereas Fort Sill is named after Brigadier General Joshua W. Sill, who was killed in the American Civil War and was a friend to Major General Philip H. Sheridan;

Whereas the first post commander at Fort Sill was Brevet Major General Benjamin Grierson;

Whereas, in 1877, Lieutenant Henry O. Flipper, the first African American to graduate from West Point, was assigned to the 10th Cavalry Regiment at Fort Sill;

Whereas, in 1898, the Fort Sill garrison was down to 27 officers and soldiers as the cavalry left for battles in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, and Lieutenant Allyn Capron, Jr., who had joined the “Rough Riders”, was the first officer killed in Cuba;

Whereas the last Indian land in Oklahoma opened for settlement in 1901, and 29,000 homesteaders registered at Fort Sill during July of that year for the land lottery;

Whereas Fort Sill played a major role in expanding the nearby city of Lawton, which was named after Major General Henry W. Lawton, a Fort Sill quartermaster who was killed in the Philippines in 1899 and was a Medal of Honor recipient;

Whereas, on August 6, 1901, the town of Lawton was established and quickly grew to become the third largest city in Oklahoma, later becoming part of the greater Lawton-Fort Sill community;

Whereas, with the disappearance of the frontier, the mission of Fort Sill gradually changed from cavalry to field artillery, with the first artillery battery arriving at Fort Sill in 1902, and the last cavalry regiment departing in May 1907;

Whereas, the School of Fire for Field Artillery was founded at Fort Sill in 1911 and continues to operate as the United States Army Field Artillery School;

Whereas, throughout its history, Fort Sill has served as home to—

(1) the Infantry School of Musketry, which was later renamed the Infantry School and moved to Camp Benning, Georgia;

(2) the Gas Defense School;

(3) the School for Aerial Observers;

(4) the Artillery Officers Candidate School (Robinson Barracks);

(5) the Air Service Flying School;

(6) the Army Aviation School;

(7) the School of Fire (now known as the Field Artillery School); and

(8) the Air Defense Artillery School;

Whereas, in 1915, the first air unit in the history of the United States Armed Forces, the 1st Aero Squadron, was stationed at Fort Sill for experiments in the aerial observation of artillery fire and, in 1916, was sent into combat with General Jack Pershing on an expedition into Mexico;

Whereas, in 1917, the Henry Post Army Airfield was constructed for aerial artillery observation and spotting;