

Whereas regular outdoor recreation is associated with economic growth, positive health outcomes, and better quality of life;

Whereas many outdoor recreation businesses are small businesses, which have been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many outdoor recreation businesses have experienced decreases in sales and have furloughed or laid off employees;

Whereas outdoor recreation businesses are cornerstones of rural communities and outdoor recreation is part of the national heritage of the United States; and

Whereas June 2020 is an appropriate month to designate as “Great Outdoors Month” to provide an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the great outdoors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2020 as “Great Outdoors Month”; and

(2) encourages all individuals in the United States to responsibly participate in recreation activities in the great outdoors during June 2020 and year-round.

SENATE RESOLUTION 630—DESIGNATING JUNE 20, 2020, AS “AMERICAN EAGLE DAY” AND CELEBRATING THE RECOVERY AND RESTORATION OF THE BALD EAGLE, THE NATIONAL SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 630

Whereas the bald eagle was chosen as the central image of the Great Seal of the United States on June 20, 1782, by the Founding Fathers at the Congress of the Confederation;

Whereas the bald eagle is widely known as the living national symbol of the United States and for many generations has represented values, such as—

- (1) freedom;
- (2) democracy;
- (3) courage;
- (4) strength;
- (5) spirit;
- (6) independence;
- (7) justice; and
- (8) excellence;

Whereas the bald eagle is unique to North America and cannot be found naturally in any other part of the world, which was one of the primary reasons the Founding Fathers selected the bald eagle to symbolize the Government of the United States;

Whereas the bald eagle is the central image used in the official logos of many branches and departments of the Federal Government, including—

- (1) the Executive Office of the President;
- (2) Congress;
- (3) the Supreme Court of the United States;
- (4) the Department of Defense;
- (5) the Department of the Treasury;
- (6) the Department of Justice;
- (7) the Department of State;
- (8) the Department of Commerce;
- (9) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (10) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- (11) the Department of Labor;
- (12) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(13) the Department of Energy;

(14) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

(15) the Central Intelligence Agency; and

(16) the United States Postal Service;

Whereas the bald eagle is an inspiring symbol of the spirit of freedom and the sovereignty of the United States;

Whereas the image and symbolism of the bald eagle has—

(1) played a significant role in art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education, and culture in the United States; and

(2) appeared on United States stamps, currency, and coinage;

Whereas the bald eagle was endangered and facing possible extinction in the lower 48 States but has made a gradual and encouraging comeback to the land, waterways, and skies of the United States;

Whereas the dramatic recovery of the national bird of the United States is an endangered species success story and an inspirational example to other environmental, natural resource, and wildlife conservation efforts worldwide;

Whereas, in 1940, noting that the bald eagle was threatened with extinction, Congress passed the Act entitled “An Act for the protection of the bald eagle”, approved June 8, 1940 (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.), which prohibited killing, selling, or possessing a bald eagle, and a 1962 amendment to that Act expanded protection to the golden eagle (referred to collectively in this preamble as the “Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act”);

Whereas, by 1963, there were only an estimated 417 nesting pairs of bald eagles remaining in the lower 48 States, with loss of habitat, poaching, and the use of pesticides and other environmental contaminants contributing to the near demise of the national bird of the United States;

Whereas, in 1967, the bald eagle was officially declared an endangered species under Public Law 89-669 (80 Stat. 926) (commonly known as the “Endangered Species Preservation Act of 1966”) in areas in the United States south of the 40th parallel due to the dramatic decline in the population of the bald eagle in the lower 48 States;

Whereas the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) was enacted in 1973, and in 1978, the bald eagle was listed as an endangered species throughout the lower 48 States, except in the States of Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin, in which the bald eagle was listed as a threatened species;

Whereas, in July 1995, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service announced that in the lower 48 States, the bald eagle had recovered sufficiently to change the status of the species from endangered to threatened;

Whereas, by 2007, bald eagles residing in the lower 48 States had rebounded to approximately 11,000 pairs;

Whereas, on June 28, 2007, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service removed the bald eagle from protection under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), but the bald eagle continues to be protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.), section 42 of title 18, United States Code (referred to in this preamble as the “Lacey Act”), and the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.);

Whereas Challenger, the trained, educational bald eagle of the American Eagle Foundation in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, was invited by the Secretary of the Interior to perform a free-flight demonstration during the official bald eagle delisting ceremony held at the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, District of Columbia;

Whereas experts and population growth charts estimate that the bald eagle population could reach 15,000 pairs, even though a physical count has not been conducted by State and Federal wildlife agencies since 2007;

Whereas caring and concerned agencies, corporations, organizations, and people of the United States representing Federal and State governments and the private sector passionately and resourcefully banded together, determined to save and protect the national bird of the United States;

Whereas the recovery of the bald eagle population in the United States was largely accomplished through—

(1) the dedicated and vigilant efforts of Federal and State wildlife agencies and nonprofit organizations, such as the American Eagle Foundation;

(2) public education;

(3) captive breeding and release programs;

(4) hacking and release programs; and

(5) the translocation of bald eagles from places in the United States with dense bald eagle populations to suitable locations in the lower 48 States that had suffered a decrease in bald eagle populations;

Whereas various nonprofit organizations, such as the Southeastern Raptor Center at Auburn University in the State of Alabama, contribute to the continuing recovery of the bald eagle through rehabilitation and educational efforts;

Whereas the bald eagle might have been lost permanently if not for dedicated conservation efforts and strict protection laws such as—

(1) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

(2) the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act;

(3) the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.);

(4) the Lacey Act; and

(5) the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.); 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 numbers and habitat of the bald eagle remain healthy and secure for generations to come: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 20, 2020, as “American Eagle Day”; and

(2) applauds the issuance of bald eagle commemorative coins by the Secretary of the Treasury to generate critical funds for the protection of the bald eagle; and

(3) encourages—

(A) educational entities, organizations, businesses, conservation groups, and government agencies with a shared interest in conserving endangered species to collaborate and develop educational tools for use in the public schools of the United States; and

(B) the people of the United States to observe American Eagle Day with appropriate ceremonies and other activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 631—HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DAVID DORN AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF DAVID DORN

Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 631

Whereas David Dorn was born on October 29, 1942, in St. Louis, Missouri;

Whereas David Dorn was—

(1) a loving husband to Sergeant Ann Marie Dorn;

(2) a father of 5 children;

(3) a grandfather of 10 grandchildren; and

(4) a dedicated public servant;

Whereas David Dorn graduated from Hadley Technical High School before attending St. Louis Community College at Forest Park and Tarkio College to study criminal justice;

Whereas David Dorn began his service with the Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis (referred to in this preamble as the "St. Louis Police Department") as a patrol officer in 1969;

Whereas, over the course of his career with the St. Louis Police Department, David Dorn—

(1) performed his duties with distinction and commitment;

(2) rose to the rank of captain; and

(3) acted as the deputy commander of the Bureau of Patrol Support, which oversaw 9 agencies within the St. Louis Police Department;

Whereas David Dorn demonstrated dedication to the city of St. Louis by serving in the St. Louis Police Department for 38 years before retiring in October 2007;

Whereas, on February 12, 2008, David Dorn returned to public service as Chief of Police of the Moline Acres Police Department;

Whereas, after a long career in law enforcement, David Dorn served his community by mentoring and assisting disadvantaged youth;

Whereas, on June 2, 2020, David Dorn responded to the looting of a business owned by a friend;

Whereas, in an act of senseless violence, a gunman opened fire on David Dorn in the course of that robbery, mortally wounding Dorn as Dorn was protecting his community; and

Whereas, on June 4, 2020, the people of St. Louis gathered to honor David Dorn and participated in a march to end violence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) extends heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of David Dorn;

(2) recognizes and honors David Dorn as a hero who lived a life of service to his community and others through the pursuit of justice and the protection of individuals in the community; and

(3) expresses deep respect and appreciation for the selfless character and sacrifice of David Dorn.

SENATE RESOLUTION 632—RE-AFFIRMING THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR AND RECOGNIZING THE RESTORATION AND ADVANCEMENT OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS, SECURITY, AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN BOTH NATIONS

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 632

Whereas the United States and Ecuador have enjoyed a history of bilateral partnership and cooperation, and share the aims of promoting democratic values, economic prosperity, and the security of both nations;

Whereas the United States and Ecuador have taken important steps to restore the bilateral relationship between the United

States and Ecuador, including by signing various agreements to strengthen economic ties, security cooperation, and development opportunities;

Whereas President Moreno has signaled Ecuador's commitment to promoting democratic values and has advocated for greater government transparency;

Whereas in February 2018, more than 64 percent of Ecuadorians voted, in a constitutional referendum, to reinstate a 2-term presidential limit, an effort that was carried out by President Moreno's administration and which is indicative of the Ecuadorian people's support for presidential term limits as a reasonable check against a history of corruption and abuse of power;

Whereas the United States-Ecuador bilateral relationship has been historically characterized by strong commercial and investment ties through the Generalized System of Preferences, the United States-Ecuador Trade and Investment Council, and the Treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of Ecuador Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, done at Washington August 27, 1993, which was terminated by Ecuador's previous government, effective May 18, 2018;

Whereas President Moreno's administration has committed to implement economic policies that will lay the groundwork for sustainable economic growth, while protecting the poorest and most vulnerable people;

Whereas, under President Moreno's leadership, there have been significant advances in areas related to freedom of expression, including through the reform of the controversial Ecuadorian Communications Law;

Whereas the Government of Ecuador has called for the peaceful restoration of democracy and the rule of law in Venezuela and Ecuador has been a generous host of approximately 385,000 Venezuelan refugees;

Whereas on May 15, 2019, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Ecuador's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to the return of the USAID Mission to Ecuador after the 53-year program was forced to close in 2014 due to tensions in the bilateral relationship;

Whereas Ecuador has been one of the countries most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in Latin America, with more than 42,000 confirmed cases and approximately 3,500 deaths as of June 5, 2020, which has overwhelmed the country's health care system and aggravated the country's already challenging economic situation;

Whereas in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, USAID is providing Ecuador with technical support and training in diagnostics, and technical assistance in clinical management, risk communication, and community engagement; and

Whereas the United States and Ecuador have agreed to advance security cooperation on law enforcement, counternarcotics, anticorruption, and bilateral military training and assistance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms its commitment—

(A) to the historic partnership between the United States and Ecuador; and

(B) to continue working to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Ecuador based on mutual respect and shared democratic values and principles;

(2) recognizes President Lenin Moreno and his administration for recommitting Ecuador to democratic values, anti-corruption efforts, and the adoption of economic policies that will benefit the people of Ecuador;

(3) commends the important steps that President Moreno and his administration

have taken to protect freedom of expression and freedom of the press in his country;

(4) encourages the Republic of Ecuador to ensure that the rights of refugees and asylum seekers are protected; and

(5) supports actions to strengthen the historic bilateral relationship between the United States and Ecuador, including—

(A) the establishment of robust bilateral trade and investment frameworks with Ecuador to build mutual prosperity through greater transparency and competitiveness;

(B) stronger law enforcement and security cooperation between the two countries, including in cybersecurity, border management, counternarcotics, anti-money laundering, military and civilian security professionalization, and criminal justice capabilities;

(C) the return of the United States Agency for International Development and the extension of the Peace Corps Program in Ecuador;

(D) continued United States assistance for Ecuador's response to combat the COVID-19 pandemic;

(E) closer ties between Americans and Ecuadorians through English language learning and teaching programs that foster greater professional and educational opportunities;

(F) continued efforts to protect freedom of expression and freedom of the press; and

(G) continued efforts to ensure that the rights of refugees and asylum seekers are protected.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 2 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 702.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Sethuraman Panchanathan, of Arizona, to be Director of the National Science Foundation for a term of six years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.