

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 712

Expressing support for the recognition of the first Thursday of October
as “U.S. Territories Day”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2021

Mr. SABLAN (for himself, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, and Ms. PLASKETT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the recognition of the first Thursday
of October as “U.S. Territories Day”.

Whereas the United States territories of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands are of integral importance to the fabric of our Nation;

Whereas Chamorro, Refalúwasch, Samoan, Taino, Latino, Afro-Caribbean, and other cultures exist within the territories;

Whereas Americans living in the territories serve in the military at an exceptionally high rate relative to other States;

Whereas the territories are of vital strategic importance to the United States;

Whereas many Americans living in the 50 States are unaware of the existence of the territories;

Whereas many maps of the United States do not depict the United States territories;

Whereas complete civic education is necessary for the ongoing stewardship and defense of our democracy; and

Whereas the House of Representatives recognizes the first Thursday of each October as “U.S. Territories Day”:
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) expresses support for the recognition of
3 “U.S. Territories Day”;

4 (2) encourages educators across the country to
5 set aside time on this day to teach students about
6 the United States territories;

7 (3) further encourages—

8 (A) the President of the United States to
9 issue a reciprocal Presidential proclamation to
10 this resolution; and

11 (B) the Senate to affirm a resolution recip-
12 rocal to this resolution; and

13 (4) requests that the Smithsonian Institution
14 make educational materials publicly available for
15 educators which include—

1 (A) maps of the United States that depict
2 the United States territories alongside the 50
3 States;

4 (B) materials to teach the history of cul-
5 tural groups tied to the territories;

6 (C) materials that highlight the contribu-
7 tions to America made by the people of the ter-
8 ritories;

9 (D) materials that tell the story of the sac-
10 rifices made by members of our Armed Forces
11 who hail from the territories; and

12 (E) materials that are appropriate for a
13 variety of grade levels.

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