

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4610

To amend title 36, United States Code, to designate the bald eagle as
the national bird.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 20, 2024

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MULLIN, and Ms. SMITH) in-
troduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Com-
mittee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 36, United States Code, to designate the
bald eagle as the national bird.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF BALD EAGLE AS NATIONAL**
4 **BIRD.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

6 (1) bald eagles are a historical symbol of the
7 United States representing independence, strength,
8 and freedom;

9 (2) the bald eagle is unique to North America;

1 (3) on June 20, 1782, the bald eagle was
2 adopted as the Coat of Arms for the United States
3 Great Seal;

4 (4) the bald eagle image remains the leading in-
5 signia for all branches of the United States military;

6 (5) the bald eagle is the leading image on thou-
7 sands of Federal Government branches, depart-
8 ments, and agencies, including the President, Vice-
9 President, Congress, and Senate;

10 (6) the bald eagle serves as the logo, trade-
11 mark, and brand icon for businesses, nonprofit orga-
12 nizations, and sports teams across the United
13 States;

14 (7) bald eagles are integral to the spiritual lives
15 and sacred belief systems of most Indigenous peoples
16 and Tribal communities;

17 (8) bald eagles are prevalent in belief, practice,
18 stories, ceremonies, dance, traditions, songs, regalia,
19 flags, insignias, arts, craft, and other forms of spir-
20 itual reverence;

21 (9) bald eagle festivals are—

22 (A) held in over 100 locations across the
23 United States; and

24 (B) key components of community engage-
25 ment;

1 (10) the bald eagle is prevalent on—

2 (A) hundreds of United States stamps; and

3 (B) many United States coins and cur-
4 rences;

5 (11) the bald eagle is a primary component and
6 symbol on Federal and State flags throughout the
7 United States; and

8 (12) joint efforts of the Federal Government
9 and State and local governments, nonprofit organi-
10 zations, and individuals have contributed to the suc-
11 cessful recovery of the bald eagle.

12 (b) DESIGNATION.—Chapter 3 of title 36, United
13 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
14 lowing:

15 **“§ 306. National bird**

16 “The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is the na-
17 tional bird.”.

18 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of sec-
19 tions for chapter 3 of title 36, United States Code, is
20 amended—

21 (1) in the chapter heading, by striking “**AND**
22 **TREE**” and inserting “**TREE, AND BIRD**”;
23 and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following:

“306. National bird.”.

1 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
2 tion, the amendments made by this section, or the adop-
3 tion of the bald eagle as the national bird of the United
4 States may be construed or used as a reason to alter,
5 change, modify, or otherwise affect any plan, policy, man-
6 agement decision, regulation, or other action of the Fed-
7 eral Government.

