

(B) support for independent journalism, including through the recently returned Radio Free Europe Bulgarian Service, which excels in investigative reporting.

SENATE RESOLUTION 323—RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LANHAM ACT BY DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF JULY AS “NATIONAL ANTI-COUNTERFEITING AND CONSUMER EDUCATION AND AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 323

Whereas July 5, 2021, marks the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the registration and protection of trademarks used in commerce, to carry out the provisions of certain international conventions, and for other purposes”, approved July 5, 1946 (commonly known as the “Lanham Act” or the “Trademark Act of 1946”) (15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) by President Harry S. Truman;

Whereas the Lanham Act provided the foundation for modern Federal trademark protection, creating legal rights and remedies for brand owners suffering from trademark infringement, helping consumers make informed choices by reducing confusingly similar products, and making the marketplace more fair, competitive, and safe for all;

Whereas the Lanham Act was named for the primary sponsor, Representative Fritz Lanham of Texas, who recognized a need to “protect legitimate business and the consumers of the country” and created a uniform Federal framework to protect the trademarks of businesses, including logos, words, phrases, names, packaging, scents, shapes, and colors;

Whereas the Lanham Act has enabled the United States Patent and Trademark Office to administer a strong and effective Federal trademark registration system that helps trademark and brand owners safeguard their investments, while protecting consumers from confusion and deception in the marketplace and in commerce;

Whereas the Lanham Act has been cited by the United States Supreme Court in more than 50 decisions and by Federal and State courts across the United States in more than 54,000 decisions;

Whereas, in 2019, approximately 58,200,000 trademarks were in force around the world;

Whereas an estimated 9,200,000 trademark registrations recorded worldwide in 2019 alone, an 18.9 percent increase on the previous year’s total;

Whereas the Lanham Act has provided more than 7 decades of protection for the consumers and industries of the United States, which is of growing importance given the explosion of counterfeiting activity associated with the growth of both global commerce and electronic commerce (commonly referred to as “e-commerce”);

Whereas counterfeit products undermine laws, including the Lanham Act, that serve to safeguard consumers and brand owners against deceptive products in the marketplace and create profits for organized crime gangs at the expense of companies and governments;

Whereas counterfeiters use deceptive practices to entice consumers to purchase counterfeit goods;

Whereas the deceptive tactics of counterfeiters and their counterfeit products pose

actual and potential harm to the health and safety of United States citizens, especially the most vulnerable consumers in society, such as senior citizens and children;

Whereas counterfeit products threaten the United States economy and job creation, given that intellectual property is a key value generator, is an enabler of success in competitive markets, and promotes innovation and drives sustained economic growth;

Whereas, according to a report issued on April 18, 2021, by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, as of 2019 the manufacturing, trade, and consumption of counterfeit products is on the rise and trade in counterfeit products accounts for 3.3 percent of global trade, or approximately \$500,000,000,000;

Whereas brand owners, including corporations and medium-sized and small businesses, collectively spend billions of dollars annually to remove counterfeit products from the marketplace, including the online marketplace, in an effort to safeguard consumers from counterfeit products and protect the innovation, reputation, and goodwill invested in their trademarked products and services;

Whereas there is a need to support the efforts of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator and the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center to minimize counterfeit activity and educate consumers about the illegal activities that consumer money might support when consumers knowingly or unknowingly purchase counterfeit products;

Whereas U.S. Customs and Border Protection is experiencing an unprecedented volume of counterfeit products being imported into domestic commerce, primarily through the use of e-commerce and delivery in small packages;

Whereas the Congressional Trademark Caucus is actively working to raise awareness of the value of trademarks and the impact of trademarks on the national and State economies, as well as the threat posed by counterfeit products in undermining the safeguards that trademark protections provide for consumers and brand owners alike;

Whereas many governmental and non-governmental entities, including Federal enforcement agencies, the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, State enforcement agencies, and consumer groups, share responsibility for, and dedicate substantial resources towards, educating the people of the United States about the potential harms that can arise from counterfeit products in the marketplace; and

Whereas recognition and commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Lanham Act serves as a means of educating the people of the United States about the importance of further raising awareness of the dangers counterfeit products pose to consumer health and safety: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the registration and protection of trademarks used in commerce, to carry out the provisions of certain international conventions, and for other purposes”, approved July 5, 1946 (commonly known as the “Lanham Act” or the “Trademark Act of 1946”) (15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) by President Harry S. Truman;

(2) designates the month of July 2021 as “National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month”;

(3) supports the goals and ideals of National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month to educate the public and raise public awareness about

the actual and potential dangers counterfeit products pose to consumer health and safety;

(4) affirms the continuing importance and need for comprehensive Federal, State, and private sector-supported education and awareness efforts designed to equip the consumers of the United States with the information and tools they need to safeguard against illegal counterfeit products in traditional commerce, internet commerce, and other electronic commerce platforms;

(5) encourages the people of the United States to observe and celebrate the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Lanham Act with appropriate anti-counterfeiting education and awareness activities; and

(6) recognizes and reaffirms the commitment of the United States to combating counterfeiting by promoting awareness about the actual and potential harm of counterfeiting to consumers and brand owners and by promoting new education programs and campaigns designed to reduce the supply of, and demand for, counterfeit products.

SENATE RESOLUTION 324—DESIGNATING JULY 30, 2021, AS “NATIONAL WHISTLEBLOWER APPRECIATION DAY”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. ERNST, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 324

Whereas, in 1777, before the passage of the Bill of Rights, 10 sailors and Marines blew the whistle on fraud and misconduct that was harmful to the United States;

Whereas the Founding Fathers unanimously supported the whistleblowers in words and deeds, including by releasing government records and providing monetary assistance for the reasonable legal expenses necessary to prevent retaliation against the whistleblowers;

Whereas, on July 30, 1778, in demonstration of their full support for whistleblowers, the members of the Continental Congress unanimously passed the first whistleblower legislation in the United States that read: “*Resolved*, That it is the duty of all persons in the service of the United States, as well as all other the inhabitants thereof, to give the earliest information to Congress or other proper authority of any misconduct, frauds or misdemeanors committed by any officers or persons in the service of these states, which may come to their knowledge” (legislation of July 30, 1778, reprinted in *Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, ed. Worthington C. Ford et al. (Washington, DC, 1904-37), 11:732);

Whereas whistleblowers risk their careers, jobs, and reputations by reporting waste, fraud, and abuse to the proper authorities;

Whereas, in providing the proper authorities with lawful disclosures, whistleblowers save the taxpayers of the United States billions of dollars each year and serve the public interest by ensuring that the United States remains an ethical and safe place; and

Whereas it is the public policy of the United States to encourage, in accordance with Federal law (including the Constitution of the United States, rules, and regulations) and consistent with the protection of classified information (including sources and

methods of detection of classified information), honest and good faith reporting of misconduct, fraud, misdemeanors, and other crimes to the appropriate authority at the earliest time possible: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 30, 2021, as “National Whistleblower Appreciation Day”; and

(2) ensures that the Federal Government implements the intent of the Founding Fathers, as reflected in the legislation passed on July 30, 1778 (relating to whistleblowers), by encouraging each executive agency to recognize National Whistleblower Appreciation Day by—

(A) informing employees, contractors working on behalf of the taxpayers of the United States, and members of the public about the legal right of a United States citizen to “blow the whistle” to the appropriate authority by honest and good faith reporting of misconduct, fraud, misdemeanors, or other crimes; and

(B) acknowledging the contributions of whistleblowers to combating waste, fraud, abuse, and violations of laws and regulations of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2122. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for Ms. STABENOW) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 452, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O’Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2122. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for Ms. STABENOW) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 452, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O’Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Willie O’Ree Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Willie O’Ree was the first Black player to compete in the National Hockey League (NHL), appearing for the Boston Bruins on January 18, 1958, in the throes of the civil rights movement in the United States helping to end racial segregation in the premier professional ice hockey league; he is widely referred to as the “Jackie Robinson of Hockey”.

(2) Willie O’Ree was born October 15, 1935, in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada; he is the youngest of 13 children and a descendant of Paris O’Ree, whose name appears in the famous historical document “The Book of Negroes”.

(3) Willie O’Ree was raised by his parents in Fredericton, a predominantly White town where hockey was deeply rooted within the culture. O’Ree was a standout athlete on the ice and the baseball diamond.

(4) At age 21, O’Ree was being scouted by professional baseball teams and seriously considered baseball as a career. Upon experiencing the segregated South for the first time while appearing for a minor league tryout, his dream changed and his attention turned solely to ice hockey.

(5) While playing amateur hockey, Willie was struck in his right eye with a puck and

lost his eyesight. He was told by doctors to abandon his hockey career; instead, never disclosing the extent of his injury, he pursued his dream of playing professional hockey.

(6) At the age of 22, O’Ree was called up from the Quebec Aces of the Quebec Hockey League (QHL) to play for the NHL’s Boston Bruins at a time when only 6 teams existed in the league. O’Ree was unaware he had broken the color barrier at the top level of the sport until he read it in the newspaper the following day.

(7) Blind in 1 eye and a victim of racism at times throughout his career, O’Ree persevered and played professional hockey for 22 years, tallying over 1,000 points.

(8) In 1996, 17 years after O’Ree retired from professional hockey, the National Hockey League hired O’Ree as the first-ever Diversity Ambassador. Having already changed the game forever through his courage and convictions, O’Ree gives new definition to what it means to be a trailblazer.

(9) In this role as Diversity Ambassador with the NHL, O’Ree set out to grow the sport by providing access, opportunity, and motivation for children of all races, ethnicities, origins, and abilities. With O’Ree providing a vivid example of what is possible and serving as a relentless supporter of children pursuing their dreams, more than 30 nonprofit youth organizations, dubbed Hockey is for Everyone programs, were developed across North America, each committed to offering minority and underserved children an opportunity to play hockey, leveraging the sport to build character, foster positive values, and develop important life skills.

(10) Through Hockey is for Everyone programs, more than 120,000 boys and girls have been positively impacted. O’Ree has devoted nearly 2,500 days on the ground with the youth participants, visiting more than 500 schools, community centers, and rinks to speak to hockey’s core values and beliefs: stay in school; set goals for yourself; remain committed and disciplined; and always respect your teammates, coaches, and parents.

(11) Hockey is for Everyone programs have provided important opportunities for youth to partake in physical fitness. Today in the United States, fewer than half of the children ages 6–11 engage in the recommended amount of physical activity, and that number is lower for low-income families. O’Ree has stood as a champion of youth athletic participation and its health benefits for decades.

(12) Hockey is for Everyone programs provide numerous off-ice services to youth: SAT and academic tutoring, mentoring, nutrition education, college counseling, community service opportunities, and more. The program has excelled at using hockey as a vehicle to improve the social and emotional wellness of youth and improve students’ academic performances both in primary school and beyond.

(13) O’Ree was also named a Member of the Order of Canada in 2008 and, in 2018, the City of Boston released an official Proclamation recognizing January 18, the anniversary of the day he broke into the game, as “Willie O’Ree Day”.

(14) In November 2018, 60 years after O’Ree entered the NHL, he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in the “builder” category in recognition of his efforts to grow the game, using his position and the platform of hockey to improve the lives of children throughout North America.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on

behalf of the Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to Willie O’Ree, or if unavailable, to a member of his family, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary. The design shall bear an image of, and an inscription of the name of, Willie O’Ree.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALES.—The amounts received from the sale of duplicate medals under subsection (a) shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

(c) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I have 10 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 BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on