

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 152

Senator Barrett offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize June 14, 2022, as Flag Day and the
2 commemoration of the 68th anniversary of the addition of the words
3 "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

4 Whereas, On June 14, 1777, the United States Second
5 Continental Congress resolved, "That the flag of the thirteen
6 United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that
7 the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a
8 new constellation"; and

9 Whereas, President Woodrow Wilson first established June 14,
10 1916 as Flag Day. President Calvin Coolidge also did the same in
11 1927. In 1949, President Harry Truman officially designated June
12 14th as Flag Day in the United States; and

1 Whereas, President Abraham Lincoln first said the phrase
2 "nation, under God," in the Gettysburg Address on November 19,
3 1863, at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery; and

4 Whereas, President Lincoln said, "It is rather for us to be
5 here dedicated to the great task remaining before us-that from
6 these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for
7 which they gave the last full measure of devotion-that we here
8 highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain-that
9 this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom-and that
10 government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not
11 perish from the earth"; and

12 Whereas, On April 20, 1953, Michigan Congressman Louis C.
13 Rabaut introduced House Joint Resolution (HJR) 243 to amend the
14 Pledge of Allegiance, stating "By the addition of the phrase "under
15 God" to the pledge, the consciousness of the American people will
16 be more alerted to the true meaning of our country and its form of
17 government. More importantly, the children of our land, in the
18 daily recitation of the pledge in school, will be daily impressed
19 with a true understanding of our way of life and its origins"; and

20 Whereas, On June 14, 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower signed
21 HJR 243, marking this year as the 68th anniversary; and

22 Whereas, These words were first recited within the Pledge of
23 Allegiance by the Knights of Columbus in 1951 at the opening of
24 their meetings; and

25 Whereas, We honor the Michigan Congressional members who put
26 forth this legislation that instilled the importance of these words
27 in our great nation's Pledge of Allegiance; now, therefore, be it

28 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
29 body recognize June 14, 2022, as Flag Day and the commemoration of

- 1 the 68th anniversary of the addition of the words "under God" to
- 2 the Pledge of Allegiance.