

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 4610

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## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF BALD EAGLE AS NATIONAL**  
2 **BIRD.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

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

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

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

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

13 (5) the bald eagle is the leading image on thou-  
14 sands of Federal Government branches, depart-  
15 ments, and agencies, including the President, Vice-  
16 President, Congress, and Senate;

17 (6) the bald eagle serves as the logo, trade-  
18 mark, and brand icon for businesses, nonprofit orga-  
19 nizations, and sports teams across the United  
20 States;

21 (7) bald eagles are integral to the spiritual lives  
22 and sacred belief systems of most Indigenous peoples  
23 and Tribal communities;

24 (8) bald eagles are prevalent in belief, practice,  
25 stories, ceremonies, dance, traditions, songs, regalia,

1 flags, insignias, arts, craft, and other forms of spir-  
2 itual reverence;

3 (9) bald eagle festivals are—

4 (A) held in over 100 locations across the  
5 United States; and

6 (B) key components of community engage-  
7 ment;

8 (10) the bald eagle is prevalent on—

9 (A) hundreds of United States stamps; and

10 (B) many United States coins and cur-  
11 rencies;

12 (11) the bald eagle is a primary component and  
13 symbol on Federal and State flags throughout the  
14 United States; and

15 (12) joint efforts of the Federal Government  
16 and State and local governments, nonprofit organi-  
17 zations, and individuals have contributed to the suc-  
18 cessful recovery of the bald eagle.

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

22 **“§ 306. National bird**

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

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

4 (1) in the chapter heading, by striking “**AND**  
 5 **TREE**” and inserting “**TREE, AND BIRD**”;  
 6 and

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

“306. National bird.”.

8 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
 9 tion, the amendments made by this section, or the adop-  
 10 tion of the bald eagle as the national bird of the United  
 11 States may be construed or used as a reason to alter,  
 12 change, modify, or otherwise affect any plan, policy, man-  
 13 agement decision, regulation, or other action of the Fed-  
 14 eral Government.

Passed the Senate July 29, 2024.

Attest:

*Secretary.*



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