

House Resolution 20 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY GUSTAFSON, HOLT, CARLIN, ABDUL-SAMAD, and BENNETT

1 A Resolution recognizing the national significance of
2 Actor John Wayne's accomplishments and designating
3 May 26, 2017, as John Wayne Day in Iowa.

4 WHEREAS, John Wayne was born Marion Robert Morrison
5 in Winterset, Iowa, on May 26, 1907; and

6 WHEREAS, John Wayne was among the top Hollywood box
7 office film stars for three decades and starred in 159
8 films; and

9 WHEREAS, 83 of John Wayne's films were Westerns, in
10 which John Wayne personified for millions the nation's
11 frontier heritage; and

12 WHEREAS, the John Wayne birthplace home in Winterset
13 has been visited by more than 1 million visitors since
14 first opening in 1982, including President Ronald
15 Reagan, film screen legend Maureen O'Hara, all of John
16 Wayne's children, and guests from all 50 states and
17 countless foreign countries; and

18 WHEREAS, the Iowa Tourism Board and the Travel
19 Federation of Iowa have honored the John Wayne
20 Birthplace and Museum with the 2016 Outstanding
21 Attraction Award; and

22 WHEREAS, John Wayne received the Academy Award for
23 Best Actor in 1969 for his role in the film "True
24 Grit"; and

25 WHEREAS, in honor of his enduring status as an
26 iconic American, John Wayne was formally recognized by
27 the United States Congress on May 26, 1979, when he
28 was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's

1 highest civilian honor; and

2 WHEREAS, on June 9, 1980, John Wayne was
3 posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom
4 by President Jimmy Carter as "an example and a symbol
5 of true American grit and determination"; and

6 WHEREAS, the mere mention of the name "John Wayne"
7 produces images of courage and patriotism; NOW

8 THEREFORE,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
10 the House of Representatives recognizes the national
11 significance of John Wayne's accomplishments and
12 designates May 26, 2017, henceforth as John Wayne Day
13 in Iowa.