

# House Resolution 116 - Introduced

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 116

### BY WILLS

1 A Resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the  
2 founding of the United States of America.

3 WHEREAS, July 4, 2026, marks the 250th anniversary  
4 of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by  
5 the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia in 1776  
6 and the founding of the United States of America; and

7 WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence proclaimed  
8 timeless principles of profound significance to the  
9 national heritage of the United States, including  
10 that all are created equal and endowed with certain  
11 inalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the  
12 pursuit of happiness, and that the just powers of  
13 the government are derived from the consent of the  
14 governed; and

15 WHEREAS, the United States was established  
16 based on the principle of federalism, emphasizing a  
17 decentralized system of governance in which powers are  
18 divided between national and state governments; and

19 WHEREAS, this decentralized model of governance has  
20 fostered liberty, accountability, and responsiveness  
21 to local communities and allowed for innovation and  
22 diverse policy approaches; and

23 WHEREAS, the founding of the United States initiated  
24 a journey toward forming a "more perfect Union", marked  
25 by historic achievements, struggles, and progress in  
26 realizing the nation's founding ideals for all its  
27 citizens; and

28 WHEREAS, Iowa has played a significant role

1 throughout the history of the United States,  
2 contributing to the nation's development, culture,  
3 economy, and defense through the efforts and sacrifices  
4 of its residents; and

5 WHEREAS, the nation's semiquincentennial offers a  
6 unique opportunity for the people of Iowa to reflect  
7 on our shared history, honor the diverse contributions  
8 of all Americans, celebrate our heritage of liberty,  
9 and look forward to the future we strive to create for  
10 subsequent generations; and

11 WHEREAS, commemorative activities across Iowa  
12 will provide educational opportunities, foster civic  
13 engagement, encourage community participation, and  
14 strengthen appreciation for the history, federalist  
15 principles, and foundational ideals upon which both the  
16 nation and the state of Iowa were built; NOW THEREFORE,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
18 That the House of Representatives recognizes and  
19 commemorates the upcoming 250th anniversary of the  
20 founding of the United States of America on July 4,  
21 2026; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of  
23 Representatives encourages all residents, communities,  
24 educational institutions, civic organizations, and  
25 businesses within Iowa to participate in commemorative  
26 events and activities that reflect on and celebrate  
27 the nation's history and achievements and reaffirm  
28 commitment to the ideals of liberty, equality,  
29 self-government, and federalism; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of

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1 Representatives strongly encourages educational  
2 institutions across Iowa to enhance civics education,  
3 ensuring that future generations understand the  
4 critical importance of civic participation and the  
5 principles of federalism that protect liberty and  
6 promote responsive government.