

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 515

Commending Pocahontas County.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 18, 2021

WHEREAS, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, incorporated in 1821 in what was then Virginia, celebrates its bicentennial in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewell of Frederick, Maryland, arrived in what is now Pocahontas County in 1749 and are widely considered to be the first European settlers in the region; and

WHEREAS, Pocahontas County was created by the Virginia General Assembly on December 21, 1821; the new county was named in honor of the Governor of Virginia at the time, Thomas Mann Randolph, Jr., who was a matrilineal descendant of Pocahontas; and

WHEREAS, Pocahontas County was formed from parts of what are now Pendleton County and Randolph County in West Virginia and Bath County in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, after West Virginia achieved statehood in July 1863, Pocahontas County and Bath County maintained strong ties based on propinquity, shared history, and kinship that endure to this day; and

WHEREAS, the Battle of Droop Mountain, one of the largest battles of the Civil War fought in West Virginia and the last major engagement of the war in the state was fought in Pocahontas County in November 1863; and

WHEREAS, the construction of railroad lines in Pocahontas County in the 1890s spurred significant economic development and population growth, leading to the establishment of Marlinton, named for Jacob Marlin, as the current county seat; and

WHEREAS, Pocahontas County is now home to many cultural, recreational, and educational attractions, including Snowshoe Mountain Resort, a popular skiing and vacation destination, and Green Bank Observatory, situated in the National Radio Quiet Zone, where broadcast transmissions are heavily restricted to facilitate scientific research; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Pocahontas County in West Virginia be commended on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of its founding; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Pocahontas County as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for the county's long and storied history.

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