

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3412

To redesignate the Richard H. Poff Federal Building located at 210 Franklin Road Southwest in Roanoke, Virginia, as the “Reuben E. Lawson Federal Building”, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 6, 2023

Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To redesignate the Richard H. Poff Federal Building located at 210 Franklin Road Southwest in Roanoke, Virginia, as the “Reuben E. Lawson Federal Building”, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Reuben E. Lawson
5 Federal Building Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) Reuben E. Lawson dedicated his life and
2 career to promoting the ideals of equality and inclu-
3 sion as a lawyer for the Roanoke chapter of the Na-
4 tional Association for the Advancement of Colored
5 People (commonly known as the “NAACP”) who ac-
6 tively worked to end segregation in Southwest Vir-
7 ginia;

8 (2) arguing a number of significant cases in the
9 Western District of Virginia, Reuben E. Lawson
10 fought to ensure the enforcement of *Brown v. Board*
11 of Education of Topeka, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), so
12 that schools in the Roanoke region would be fully in-
13 tegrated; and

14 (3) Southwest Virginians are indebted to Reu-
15 ben E. Lawson for his important work in ending
16 segregation, and it is fitting that he be remembered
17 in the current home of the court in which he val-
18 iantly fought.

19 **SEC. 3. REUBEN E. LAWSON FEDERAL BUILDING.**

20 (a) REDESIGNATION.—The Richard H. Poff Federal
21 Building located at 210 Franklin Road Southwest in Roa-
22 noke, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the
23 “Reuben E. Lawson Federal Building”.

24 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
25 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United

1 States to the Richard H. Poff Federal Building shall be
2 deemed to be a reference to the “Reuben E. Lawson Fed-
3 eral Building”.

