

SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEED FOR CATALOGING AND  
MAINTAINING PUBLIC MEMORIALS COMMEMORATING MILITARY CON-  
FLICTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE SERVICE OF INDIVIDUALS IN  
THE ARMED FORCES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2000.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. Con. Res. 345]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 345) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for cataloging and maintaining public memorials commemorating military conflicts of the United States and the service of individuals in the Armed Forces, having considered the same report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the concurrent resolution be agreed to.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H. Con. Res. 345 is to express the sense of the Congress regarding the need for cataloging and maintaining public memorials commemorating military conflicts of the United States and the service of individuals in the Armed Forces.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H. Con. Res. 345 addresses the need to create a cataloged list of the many different public war memorials of the United States. Thousands of public memorials dealing with United States involvement in military conflicts exist throughout the world. However, there is no index or record as to their location nor is there a cataloged assessment as to their condition. Many of these memorials suffer from neglect, disrepair, or have been relocated or stored in facilities where they are not accessible to the public.

Currently, the federal government monitors only those memorials that are federally-funded. There are, however, non-profit organizations, such as Remembering Veterans Who Earned Their

Stripes (RVETS, Inc.), that have undertaken self-funded programs in an attempt to catalog these memorials.

H. Con. Res. 345 urges the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the National Park Service, to collect and maintain information on public memorials commemorating military conflicts of the United States. The resolution also urges a coordinated effort between the federal government and other entities like RVETS, Inc. in collecting and maintaining this information which would then be available to the public.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

H. Con. Res. 345 was introduced by Congressman James Rogan (R-CA) on June 6, 2000. The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands. On July 26, 2000, the Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged from further consideration by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered and the bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

#### COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. *Cost of Legislation.* Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. *Congressional Budget Act.* As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. *Government Reform Oversight Findings.* Under clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received no report of oversight findings and recommendations from the Committee on Government Reform on this bill.

4. *Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate.* Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,  
 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
 Washington, DC, September 7, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,  
 Chairman, Committee on Resources,  
 House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H. Con. Res. 345, expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for cataloging and maintaining public memorials commemorating military conflicts of the United States and the Service of individuals in the Armed Forces.

If you wish further details of this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Barry Blom.

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON  
 (For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

*H. Con. Res. 345—Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for cataloging and maintaining public memorials commemorating military conflicts of the United States and the service of individuals in the Armed Forces*

H. Con. Res. 345 expresses the sense of the Congress that the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, should collect and maintain information on public memorials commemorating military conflicts of the United States and the service of individuals in the armed forces. Because the concurrent resolution would urge but not require the Secretary to take certain actions, it would not necessarily result in additional costs to the federal government. If the Secretary were to collect and maintain such information in a database, CBO estimates that the effort would cost about \$1 million over the next five years, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Most of the information on the location of such memorials has already been collected, and the remaining effort would involve creating and maintaining a database. Pay-as-you go procedures would not apply to H. Con. Res. 345.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Barry Blom. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt State, local, or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.