Calendar No. 396

Report

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104TH CONGRESS 2d Session

SENATE

LAURA C. HUDSON VISITOR CENTER

MAY 9, 1996.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1627]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 1627) to designate the visitor center at Jean Lafitte National Historic Park in New Orleans, Louisiana as the "Laura C. Hudson Visitor Center", having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE

The purpose of S. 1627 is to designate the visitor center at Jean Lafitte National Historical Park as the "Laura C. Hudson Visitor Center."

BACKGROUND AND NEED

For twenty years, Laura C. Hudson served on the staff of Senator J. Bennett Johnston. Ms. Hudson completed her Senate service last August as Senator Johnston's legislative director and indispensable right hand. There are parks, wildlife refuges, historic preservation projects, and other important projects in Louisiana and beyond which exist in very large measure because of the personal dedication and legislative skill of Laura Hudson. In addition, Ms. Hudson was the moving force behind the passage in the last Congress of the Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiatives Act. This legislation will help implement a number of important recommendations contained in the 1990 report of the Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission, chaired by then Governor Bill Clinton.

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Jean Lafitte National Historical Park in Louisiana is a unique unit of the National Park System. It comprises a number of resources, both natural and historic. Like a wheel with several spokes, the new hub of the park is located in the French Quarter of New Orleans in a beautifully renovated building at 419 Rue Decatur. This building will serve as a visitor contact point, museum and interpretive center. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park was one of the first significant park projects Laura Hudson took on as a member of Senator Johnston's staff. Given her pivotal role in the establishment, development, and growth of this unique park, it is appropriate that the new visitor facility at the park bear her name.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 1627 was introduced by Senator Johnston on March 20, 1996. The bill was favorably reported at the May 1, 1996 business meeting of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources without amendment. Identical legislation is included in H.R. 1296, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent on May 1, 1996.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND TABULATION OF VOTES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in open business session on May 1, 1996, by a unanimous voice vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 1627 without amendment.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1

Designates the visitor center at Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, located at 419 Rue Decatur in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the "Laura C. Hudson Visitor Center."

Section 2

Directs that the Center be referenced as such in law, maps, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States.

COST AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

On May 7, 1996 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources requested a Congressional Budget Office estimate on S. 1627. This estimate had not been received at the time the report on S. 1627 was filed. When this estimate becomes available, the Chairman will request that it be printed in the Congressional Record for the advice of the Senate.

REGULATORY IMPACT EVALUATION

In compliance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee makes the following evaluation of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out S. 1627. The bill is not a regulatory measure in the sense of imposing Government-established standards or significant economic responsibilities on private individuals and businesses.

No personal information would be collected in administering the program. Therefore, there would be no impact on personal privacy.

Little, if any, additional paperwork would result from the enactment of S. 1627, as ordered reported.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

On May 8, 1996, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources requested legislative reports from the Department of the Interior and the Office of Management and Budget setting forth Executive agency recommendations on S. 1627. These reports had not been received at the time the report on S. 1627 was filed. When these reports become available, the Chairman will request that they be printed in the Congressional Record for the advice of the Senate.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee notes that no changes in existing law are made by S. 1627, as ordered reported.

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