

## Calendar No. 397

104TH CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
104-263

### UNITED STATES CIVIL WAR 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.J. Res. 42]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 42) designating the Civil War Center at Louisiana State University as the United States Civil War Center, making the center the flagship institution for planning the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the preamble and recommends that the joint resolution, as amended, do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

1. Amend the preamble to read as follows:

Whereas the sesquicentennial of the beginning of the Civil War will occur in the year 2011;

Whereas the sesquicentennial will be the last significant opportunity for most Americans alive in the year 2011 to recall and commemorate the Civil War;

Whereas the Civil War Center in Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has as its principal missions to create a comprehensive database that contains all Civil War materials and to facilitate the study of the Civil War from the perspectives of all ethnic cultures and all professions; academic disciplines, and occupations;

Whereas the two principal missions of the Civil War Center are consistent with commemoration of the sesquicentennial;

Whereas the missions of the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College parallel those of the Civil War Center; and

Whereas advance planning to facilitate the four-year commemoration of the sesquicentennial is required: Now, therefore, be it.

2. Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF THE UNITED STATES CIVIL WAR CENTER**

The Civil War Center, located on Raphael Semmes Drive at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, (hereinafter referred to as the "center") shall be known and designated as the "United States Civil War Center".

**SEC. 2. LEGAL REFERENCES.**

Any reference in any law, regulation, paper, record, map, or any other document of the United States to the center referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "United States Civil War Center".

**SEC. 3. FLAGSHIP INSTITUTIONS.**

The center and the Civil War Institute of Gettysburg College, located at 233 North Washington Street in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, shall be the flagship institutions for planning the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War.

**PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE**

The purpose of S.J. Res. 42 is to designate the Civil War Center at Louisiana State University as the "United States Civil War Center."

**BACKGROUND AND NEED**

The sesquicentennial of the beginning of the Civil War will occur in the year 2011. There is a significant opportunity to commemorate this event and to study the impact that the Civil War had on the history of the United States. The implementation of a sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War in the years 2011–2015 will require advance planning and coordination.

The United States Civil War Center at Louisiana State University was created to serve as a center for all Civil War interests in the United States. The Center combines scholarly pursuits with projects and programs designed to enhance the general public's view of the Civil War. The mission of the Civil War Center is to facilitate the creation of a database that includes information on all private and institutional holdings on Civil War materials through the Nation; and to promote the study of the Civil War from the perspective of all academic disciplines; professions and occupations.

The Center has developed a proposal for the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War which states that the principal missions of the Center are ideally aligned with a nationwide Sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War. The proposal requests that the Center be designated as the flagship institution for planning the commemoration activities. Members of the United States Civil War Center's advisory board have signed a petition and submitted letters in support of the goal.

Activities of the sesquicentennial highlighted in the proposal include the development of an on-line database, the establishment of State commissions, and local and international committees, educational programs, media, conferences, symposia, conventions, exhibits and publications.

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

S.J. Res. 42 was introduced by Senators Breaux and Johnston on November 2, 1995. A hearing was held by the Subcommittee for Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation on March 21, 1996, S.J. Res. 42, as amended, was favorably reported by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources as amended on May 1, 1996.

Identical legislation has been included in H.R. 1296, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent on May 1, 1996.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

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.J. Res. 42 as amended.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

During the consideration of S.J. Res. 42, amendments were adopted to designate the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College, in conjunction with the United States Civil War Center, as the flagship institutions for planning the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War.

#### SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

##### *Section 1*

Designates the Civil War Center (Center) at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as the "United States Civil War Center".

##### *Section 2*

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

##### *Section 3*

States that the Center and the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, shall be the flagship institutions for the purpose of planning the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War.

#### COST AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

On May 7, 1996 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources requested a Congressional Budget Office estimate on S.J. Res. 42. This estimate had not been received at the time the report on S.J. Res. 42 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.J. Res. 42. 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.J. Res. 42, as ordered reported.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

On March 5, 1996, and March 20, 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.J. Res. 42. These reports had not been received at the time the report on S.J. Res. 42 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. The testimony provided by the National Park Service at the Subcommittee hearing on S.J. Res. 42 as follows:

STATEMENT OF KATHERINE H. STEVENSON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,  
CULTURAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP AND PARTNERSHIPS, NATIONAL  
PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

S.J. Res. 42 would designate the Civil War Center at Louisiana State University as the United States Civil War Center, making the center the flagship institution for planning the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War. Mr. Chairman, we do not support the resolution and provide the following comments for your consideration. Our comments are not a statement on the integrity or academic credentials of the Civil War Center at Louisiana State University.

We commend Congress for thinking in advance about this important anniversary in our Nation's history. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War, we feel that Congress should develop a more in-depth process or program for determining where and how that celebration would be organized and what organization should have the lead in that celebration or be the "flagship institution for planning the sesquicentennial commemoration." Numerous Civil War experts and historians exist at many institutions around the country. In addition to the Civil War Center at Louisiana State University, there are numerous groups and organizations throughout the United States involved in studying and interpreting the Civil War that would clearly be interested in being designated the flagship institution for this anniversary.

We believe it would be more appropriate for the Congress to develop a Civil War Commemoration Commission and appoint experts from throughout the country to develop an appropriate plan and program for commemorating this important period in our Nation's history.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my prepared remarks. We welcome the opportunity to work with members of the Committee where we have recommended changes to these bills. I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have at this time.

## 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.J. Res. 42, as ordered reported.