

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7915

To direct the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library to obtain a statue of Clarence Mitchell, Jr. for placement in the United States Capitol.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 2026

Mr. MFUME (for himself, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Ms. ELFRETH, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BROWN, Mr. THANEDAR, and Mr. FIGURES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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## A BILL

To direct the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library to obtain a statue of Clarence Mitchell, Jr. for placement in the United States Capitol.

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 “Clarence Mitchell, Jr.  
5       Statue Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

8               (1) Clarence Mitchell, Jr. was born in Balti-  
9       more on March 8, 1911, attended Baltimore City

1 Public Schools, received his Juris Doctorate from  
2 the University of Maryland School of Law, and  
3 spent most of his career practicing law in Baltimore.

4 (2) Early in his career, Clarence Mitchell, Jr.  
5 was a reporter for the Baltimore Afro-American  
6 newspaper, the longest running African-American  
7 family-owned newspaper in the nation. During his  
8 time as a reporter, he reported on the lynching of  
9 George Armwood, whose death marked the last re-  
10 corded lynching in Maryland.

11 (3) According to the Maryland State Archives,  
12 Clarence Mitchell, Jr. served as the director of the  
13 National Association for the Advancement of Col-  
14 ored People (“NAACP”) Washington Bureau from  
15 1950 to 1978, waging a tireless campaign to secure  
16 passage of passage of the 1957 and 1964 Civil  
17 Rights Laws, the 1965 Voting Rights Laws, and the  
18 1968 Fair Housing Law.

19 (4) Clarence Mitchell, Jr.’s success advocating  
20 for policy stemmed largely from his fruitful relation-  
21 ships across both sides of the aisle, including part-  
22 nerships with leaders like former United States  
23 Speaker of the House John W. McCormack and  
24 United States Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen.

1           (5) A staunch supporter of civil rights for all,  
2       Clarence Mitchell, Jr., was named a member of the  
3       United States delegation to the United Nations in  
4       1975.

5           (6) According to the NAACP, Clarence Mitch-  
6       ell, Jr., firmly established the NAACP's presence in  
7       Congress as the leader of the struggle for civil rights  
8       laws by testifying at least 180 times before congres-  
9       sional committees in the quest for civil rights laws  
10      between 1946 and 1978.

11          (7) In 1980, then-President Jimmy Carter  
12      awarded Clarence Mitchell, Jr. the Presidential  
13      Medal of Freedom, with the citation reading: "Clar-  
14      ence M. Mitchell, Jr., for decades waged in the halls  
15      of Congress a stubborn, resourceful and historic  
16      campaign for social justice. The integrity of this  
17      '101st Senator' earned him the respect of friends  
18      and adversaries alike. His brilliant advocacy helped  
19      translate into law the protests and aspirations of  
20      millions consigned too long to second-class citizen-  
21      ship. The hard-won fruits of his labors have made  
22      America a better and stronger nation."

23   **SEC. 3. PLACEMENT OF STATUE OF CLARENCE MITCHELL,**  
24                           **JR. IN UNITED STATES CAPITOL.**

25      (a) OBTAINING STATUE.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after  
2           the date of the enactment of this Act, the Joint  
3           Committee of Congress on the Library shall enter  
4           into an agreement to obtain a statue of Clarence  
5           Mitchell, Jr., under such terms and conditions as  
6           the Joint Committee considers appropriate con-  
7           sistent with applicable law.

8           (2) AUTHORIZATION FOR ARCHITECT OF THE  
9           CAPITOL.—The Joint Committee may authorize the  
10          Architect of the Capitol to enter into the agreement  
11          and related contracts required under this subsection  
12          on its behalf, under such terms and conditions as  
13          the Joint Committee may require.

14          (b) PLACEMENT.—The Joint Committee of Congress  
15          on the Library shall place the statue obtained under sub-  
16          section (a) in a permanent public location in the United  
17          States Capitol.

18          (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
19          are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be  
20          necessary to carry out this Act, and any amounts so ap-  
21          propriated shall remain available until expended.

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