

WOMEN WHO WORKED ON THE HOME FRONT WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ACT

AUGUST 7, 2020.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRIJALVA, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 5068]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 5068) to authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate the commitment and service represented by women who worked on the home front during World War II.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemorative work under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

(c) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF WOMEN WHO WORKED ON THE HOME FRONT FOUNDATION.—The Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If upon payment of all expenses for the establishment of the memorial (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

(2) ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—If upon expiration of the authority for the commemorative work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation shall transmit the amount of the balance to a separate account with the National Park Foundation for memorials, to be available to the Secretary of the Interior or Administrator (as appropriate) following the process provided in section 8906(b)(4) of title 40, United States Code, for accounts established under section 8906(b)(2) or (3) of title 40, United States Code.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 5068 is to authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

During World War II, women filled thousands of jobs across the country that were historically filled by men in order to allow more men to go off to war to fight for our country. As a result, the female percentage of the U.S. workforce increased from 27 percent to nearly 37 percent between 1940 and 1945, with nearly one out of four married women working outside the home by 1945.¹ Women worked on farms and in defense plants, fixed cars, flew military aircraft, and filled thousands of other jobs previously held by men. According to the National World War II Museum, “[n]early 350,000 American women served in uniform, both at home and abroad, volunteering for the newly formed Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps (WAACs, later renamed the Women’s Army Corps), the Navy Women’s Reserve (WAVES), the Marine Corps Women’s Reserve, the Coast Guard Women’s Reserve (SPARS), the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPS), the Army Nurses Corps, and the Navy Nurse Corps. General Eisenhower felt that he could not win the war without the aid of the women in uniform.”²

At the end of the war, many of these women were forced out of their jobs as men returned home. As the National World War II Museum puts it, “[t]he nation that needed their help in a time of crisis, it seems, was not yet ready for the greater social equality that would slowly come in the decades to follow.”³

H.R. 5068 would authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work on federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate the commitment and service of the nearly 350,000 American women who worked on the home front during World War II. The legislation stipulates that the work would be established in accordance with the Commemorative Works Act and without the use of

¹*The Role of Women*, NAT’L MEM’L TO THE WOMEN WHO WORKED ON THE HOME FRONT FOUND., <https://www.whfnmf.org/projects> (last visited May 7, 2020).

²*History at a Glance: Women in World War II*, THE NAT’L WWII MUSEUM, <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/students-teachers/student-resources/research-starters/women-wwii> (last visited May 7, 2020).

³*Id.*

federal funds. The Women Who Worked on the Home Front Commemorative Work was conceived of by District of Columbia resident Raya Kenney when she was in fifth grade; Ms. Kenney is now a high school senior.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 5068 was introduced on November 13, 2019, by Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton (D–DC). The bill was referred solely to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. On December 4, 2019, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On March 11, 2020, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged by unanimous consent. Chair Raúl M. Grijalva (D–AZ) offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The amendment was agreed to by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was adopted and ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

HEARINGS

For the purposes of section 103(i) of H. Res. 6 of the 116th Congress—the following hearing was used to develop or consider H.R. 5068: legislative hearing by the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held on December 4, 2019.

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 Natural Resources’ oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 5, 2020.

Hon. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN, The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 5068, the Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is David Hughes.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 5068, Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 11, 2020			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2025	2020-2030
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	0	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2031?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between -\$500,000 and zero.			

H.R. 5068 would authorize the nonprofit Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in or near Washington, D.C. The bill would prohibit the use of federal funds to establish the memorial.

The project would be subject to the provisions of the Commemorative Works Act. Under that act, any entity that receives a construction permit for a commemorative work must donate an amount equal to 10 percent of the memorial's estimated construction costs to the National Park Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose subsequent donations to the National Park Service are recorded on the budget. That donation and any project funds remaining after construction would be available for maintenance of the memorial without further appropriation.

Based on the experience from similar projects, CBO expects that any amounts collected by the federal government for maintenance of the monument would not be received for several years and would be offset by expenditures soon thereafter. Thus, CBO estimates that the bill's net effect on direct spending would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is David Hughes. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goals and objectives of this bill are to authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

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

SUPPLEMENTAL, MINORITY, ADDITIONAL, OR DISSENTING VIEWS

None.

