

Public Law 100-622
100th Congress

Joint Resolution

Designating the day of August 7, 1989, as "National Lighthouse Day".

Nov. 5, 1988
[S.J. Res. 306]

Whereas August, 7, 1989, marks the 200th anniversary of the signing by President Washington of the Lighthouse Act; and

Whereas that Act, established a Federal role in the support, maintenance, and repair of all lighthouses, beacon buoys, and public piers necessary for safe navigation; commissioned the first Federal lighthouse, and represents the first public works Act in the young country; and

Whereas lighthouses played an integral role in the rich maritime history of the United States as that history spread from the Atlantic coast, through the Great Lakes and Gulf coast, to the Pacific States; and

Whereas these impressive structures, standing at land's end through two centuries, have symbolized safety, security, heroism, duty, and faithfulness; and

Whereas architects, designers, engineers, builders, and keepers devoted, and in some cases, jeopardized, their lives for the safety of others; and

Whereas by 1989 the United States Coast Guard will complete the automation of all Coast Guard lights, concluding a rich, colorful, and significant chapter in American history; and

Whereas this heritage is further threatened by neglect, vandalism, and deterioration by the elements; and

Whereas the many completed, ongoing, or planned private and public efforts to preserve lighthouses demonstrate the public support for these historic structures: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the day of August 7, 1989, is designated as "National Lighthouse Day"; that to the extent feasible, lighthouse grounds should be open to the general public; and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved November 5, 1988.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 306:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 134 (1988):
July 26, considered and passed Senate.
Oct. 21, considered and passed House.