Public Law 98-162
98th Congress

Joint Resolution

To commemorate the centennial of Eleanor Roosevelt's birth.

Nov. 21, 1983
[S.J. Res. 139]

Eleanor Roosevelt, birth centennial commemoration.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress finds and declares that—

(1) Eleanor Roosevelt, who was First Lady of the United States from 1933 to 1945, was one of the country's great First Ladies;

(2) born into wealth and privilege, herself, Eleanor Roosevelt nevertheless worked tirelessly to secure opportunities for disadvantaged Americans and to improve the lot of the needy elsewhere, and particularly in developing countries;

(3) both during and after her service in the White House, Eleanor Roosevelt campaigned indefatigably for human rights in the United States and throughout the world;

(4) Eleanor Roosevelt devoted her efforts especially to promoting the welfare of children;

(5) for this service, for her articulate and compassionate advocacy of the highest American ideals, and for demonstrating by personal example the capacities of American women to succeed in areas of daily life and work from which they were frequently excluded in her day, Eleanor Roosevelt earned a place of honor and respect in the hearts of the American people; and

(6) October 11, 1984, marks the centennial of Eleanor Roosevelt's birth, and it is appropriate for Americans to mark this occasion with appropriate commemorations during 1984.

Commission on the Eleanor Roosevelt Centennial. Establishment.

SEC. 2. (a) There is hereby established a Commission on the Eleanor Roosevelt Centennial.

(b) The membership of the Commission shall consist of the following—

(1) two Members of the House of Representatives, designated by the Speaker of the House;

(2) two Members of the Senate, designated by the President pro tempore of the Senate after consultation with the majority leader and the minority leader;

(3) the Director of the National Park Service, ex officio;

(4) the Archivist of the United States, ex officio;

(5) the Librarian of Congress, ex officio;

(6) the Governor of the State of New York, ex officio;

(7) the County Executive of Dutchess County, New York, ex officio;

(8) the surviving children of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt; and

(9) the chairman of the Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, ex officio.

For a particular meeting of the Commission any member of the Commission may appoint another individual to serve in his stead.

(c) Commission members shall designate one of their number as Chairman.

AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

SEC. 3. The Commission established by section 2 of this resolution is authorized to—

(1) encourage and recognize appropriate observances and commemorations, throughout the United States, of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Eleanor Roosevelt; and

(2) provide advice and assistance to Federal, State, and local government agencies and to private organizations in establishing such observances and commemorations.

SEC. 4. (a) The Commission shall meet no later than thirty days after enactment of this resolution at a date and location determined by the Librarian of Congress, and at such locations and intervals thereafter as the Commission may decide. Unless otherwise provided by the Commission, a majority of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. The Commission shall cease to exist on January 1, 1986.

Termination date.

(b) The Commission may adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to conduct meetings and carry out its duties under this resolution.

(c) The Administrator of General Services and the Director of the National Park Service shall provide the Commission such assistance and facilities as may be necessary to carry out its proceedings.

Donations.

(d) The Commission may accept donations of money, supplies, and services to carry out its responsibilities.

(e) The Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, a not-for-profit organization incorporated in the State of New York, and successor organization to the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Foundation, chartered pursuant to Public Law 88-11, shall provide staff assistance to, and coordinate policies and events for, the Commission.

77 Stat. 8.

Pay and expenses.

(f) Members of the Commission shall serve without pay. While away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5 of the United States Code, except that the total of payments made under this subsection for per diem in lieu of subsistence shall not exceed $10,000.

Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site.

SEC. 5. In commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Eleanor Roosevelt, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, shall complete such improvements and development in the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site at Val-Kill in Hyde Park, New York, in fiscal year 1984, as will assure improved access and availability sufficiently to open the site to extensive public visitation.

Approved November 21, 1983.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 139:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 129 (1983):
Nov. 2, considered and passed Senate.
Nov. 4, considered and passed House.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 19, No. 47 (1983):
Nov. 21, Presidential statement.