

Public Law 99-172  
99th Congress

## An Act

Dec. 9, 1985  
[H.R. 1806]

To recognize the organization known as the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## CHARTER

Corporation.  
36 USC 3701.

SECTION 1. The Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865, a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Ohio, is recognized as such and is granted a Federal charter.

## POWERS

36 USC 3702.

SEC. 2. The Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865 (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "corporation") shall have only those powers granted to it through its bylaws and articles of incorporation filed in the State or States in which it is incorporated and subject to the laws of such State or States.

## OBJECTS AND PURPOSES OF CORPORATION

36 USC 3703.

SEC. 3. The objects and purposes of the corporation are those provided in its articles of incorporation and, for the purpose of perpetuating the memories of the fathers of the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865, their loyalty to the Union, and their unselfish sacrifices for the preservation of the same, shall include the following:

(1) Encouraging the preservation of historic sites and the construction and preservation of monuments commemorating any aspect of the Civil War.

(2) Building and maintaining a Museum of Civil War History, admission to which shall be free and open to the public, in the city of Springfield, Illinois, as a repository of Civil War documents, artifacts, and cultural relics.

(3) Maintaining a library in connection with the Civil War museum, admission to which shall be open to the public, containing the official volumes of the War of the Rebellion Records, Civil War genealogical files, Adjutant General reports of the various States, military and biographical records and accounts of the individual service of Union soldiers, sailors, and marines, diaries, letters, relics, and other records.

(4) Promulgating and teaching American history, particularly the history of the Civil War period, through the establishment of scholarship programs at the National and State levels, the presentation of American flags to youth groups and newly naturalized citizens, and the sponsorship of contests of educational merit.

Voluntarism.

(5) Caring for veterans of all wars through volunteer programs in Veterans' Administration medical centers and in

homes and other institutions maintained by the States for the welfare of American veterans.

(6) Participating, in a spirit of cooperation and reciprocity, in programs with other societies devoted to American history, veterans' affairs, or community interests.

The corporation shall function as a veterans' and patriotic organization as authorized by the laws of the State or States in which it is incorporated.

#### SERVICE OF PROCESS

SEC. 4. With respect to service of process, the corporation shall comply with the laws of the States in which it is incorporated and those States in which it carries on its activities in furtherance of its corporate purposes. 36 USC 3704.

#### MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 5. Eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights and privileges of members of the corporation shall be as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation. 36 USC 3705.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS; COMPOSITION; RESPONSIBILITIES

SEC. 6. The composition of the board of directors of the corporation and the responsibilities of such board shall be as provided in the articles of incorporation of the corporation and in conformity with the laws of the State or States in which it is incorporated. 36 USC 3706.

#### OFFICERS OF CORPORATION

SEC. 7. The positions of officers of the corporation and the election of members to such positions shall be as provided in the articles of incorporation of the corporation and in conformity with the laws of the State or States in which it is incorporated. 36 USC 3707.

#### RESTRICTIONS

SEC. 8. (a) No part of the income or assets of the corporation may inure to the benefit of any member, officer, or director of the corporation or be distributed to any such individual during the life of this charter. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the payment of reasonable compensation to the officers of the corporation or reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses in amounts approved by the board of directors. 36 USC 3708.

(b) The corporation may not make any loan to any officer, director, or employee of the corporation.

(c)(1) The corporation may not contribute to, support, or otherwise participate in any political activity or attempt in any manner to influence legislation.

(2) No officer or director of the corporation, acting as such officer or director, may commit any act prohibited under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(d) The corporation shall have no power to issue any shares of stock nor to declare or pay any dividends.

(e) The corporation shall not claim congressional approval or the authorization of the Federal Government for any of its activities.

## LIABILITY

- 36 USC 3709. SEC. 9. The corporation shall be liable for the acts of its officers and agents whenever such officers and agents have acted within the scope of their authority.

## BOOKS AND RECORDS; INSPECTION

- 36 USC 3710. SEC. 10. The corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and minutes of any proceeding of the corporation involving any of its members, the board of directors, or any committee having authority under the board of directors. The corporation shall keep, at its principal office, a record of the names and addresses of all members having the right to vote in any proceeding of the corporation. All books and records of such corporation may be inspected by any member having the right to vote in any corporation proceeding, or by any agent or attorney of such member, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time. Nothing in this section shall be construed to contravene any applicable State law.

## AUDIT OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

SEC. 11. The first section of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for audit of accounts of private corporations established under Federal law", approved August 30, 1964 (36 U.S.C. 1101), is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"(70) Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865."

## ANNUAL REPORT

- 36 USC 3711. SEC. 12. The corporation shall report annually to the Congress concerning the activities of the corporation during the preceding fiscal year. Such annual report shall be submitted at the same time as the report of the audit required by section 11 of this Act. The report shall not be printed as a public document.

## RESERVATION OF RIGHT TO AMEND OR REPEAL CHARTER

- Congress.  
36 USC 3712. SEC. 13. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is expressly reserved to the Congress.

## DEFINITION OF "STATE"

- 36 USC 3713. SEC. 14. For purposes of this Act, the term "State" includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories and possessions of the United States.

## TAX-EXEMPT STATUS

- 36 USC 3714. SEC. 15. The corporation shall maintain its status as an organization exempt from taxation as provided in the Internal Revenue Code

of 1954. If the corporation fails to maintain such status, the charter granted by this Act shall expire. 26 USC 1 *et seq.*

#### TERMINATION

SEC. 16. If the corporation shall fail to comply with any of the restrictions or provisions of this Act, the charter granted by this Act shall expire. 36 USC 3715.

Approved December 9, 1985.

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1806:

HOUSE REPORT No. 99-70 (Comm. on the Judiciary).  
SENATE REPORT No. 99-179 (Comm. on the Judiciary).  
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 131 (1985):  
May 13, considered and passed House.  
Nov. 21, considered and passed Senate.