

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4483

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study regarding whether the Rosie the Riveter Park located in Richmond, California, is suitable for designation as an affiliated site to the National Park Service.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 6, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study regarding whether the Rosie the Riveter Park located in Richmond, California, is suitable for designation as an affiliated site to the National Park Service.

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 “Rosie the Riveter Na-  
5       tional Park Service Affiliated Site Study Act of 1998”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; STUDY.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1           (1) The City of Richmond, California, is located  
2           on the northeastern shore of San Francisco Bay and  
3           consists of several miles of waterfront which have  
4           been used for shipping and industry since the begin-  
5           ning of the 20th century. During the years of World  
6           War II, the population of Richmond grew from 220  
7           to over 100,000.

8           (2) An area of Richmond, California, now  
9           known as Marina Park and Marina Green, was the  
10          location in the 1940's of the Richmond Kaiser Ship-  
11          yards, which produced Liberty and Victory ships  
12          during World War II.

13          (3) Thousands of women of all ages and  
14          ethnicities moved from across the United States to  
15          Richmond, California, in search of high paying jobs  
16          and skills never before available to women in the  
17          shipyards.

18          (4) Kaiser Corporation supported women work-  
19          ers by installing child care centers at the shipyards  
20          so mothers could work while their children were well  
21          cared for nearby.

22          (5) These women, referred to as "Rosie the  
23          Riveter" and "Wendy the Welder", built hundreds of  
24          liberty and victory ships in record time for use by  
25          the United States Navy. Their labor played a crucial

1       role in increasing American productivity during the  
2       war years and in meeting the demand for naval  
3       ships.

4           (6) In part the Japanese plan to defeat the  
5       United States Navy was predicated on victory occur-  
6       ring before United States shipyards could build up  
7       its fleet of ships.

8           (7) The City of Richmond, California, has dedi-  
9       cated the former site of Kaiser Shipyard #2 as  
10      Rosie the Riveter Memorial Park and will construct  
11      a memorial honoring American women’s labor dur-  
12      ing World War II. The memorial will be representa-  
13      tive of one of the Liberty ships built on the site dur-  
14      ing the war effort.

15          (8) The City of Richmond, California, is com-  
16      mitted to collective interpretative oral histories for  
17      the public to learn of the stories of the “Rosies” and  
18      “Wendys” who worked in the shipyards.

19          (9) The Rosie the Riveter Park is a nationally  
20      significant site because there tens of thousands of  
21      women entered the work force for the first time,  
22      working in heavy industry to support their families  
23      and the War effort. This was a turning point for the  
24      Richmond, California, area and the nation as a  
25      whole, when women joined the workforce and suc-

1       cessfully completed jobs for which previously it was  
2       believed they were incapable.

3       (b) STUDY.—

4           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-  
5       rior shall conduct a feasibility study to determine  
6       whether—

7           (A) the Rosie the Riveter Park located in  
8       Richmond, California, is suitable for designa-  
9       tion as an affiliated site to the National Park  
10      Service; and

11          (B) the Rosie the Riveter Memorial Com-  
12      mittee established by the City of Richmond,  
13      California, with respect to that park is eligible  
14      for technical assistance for interpretative func-  
15      tions relating to the park, including preserva-  
16      tion of oral histories from former workers at the  
17      Richmond Kaiser Shipyards.

18          (2) REPORTS.—Not later than 6 months after  
19      the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
20      shall complete the study under paragraph (1) and  
21      submit a report containing findings, conclusions, and  
22      recommendations from the study to the Committee  
23      on Resources of the House of Representatives and

- 1 the Committee on Energy and Environment of the
- 2 Senate.

