

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 146

To authorize the President to consent to third party transfer of the ex-USS Bowman County to the USS LST Ship Memorial, Inc.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1999

Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To authorize the President to consent to third party transfer of the ex-USS Bowman County to the USS LST Ship Memorial, Inc.

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. AUTHORITY TO CONSENT TO THIRD PARTY**  
4                       **TRANSFER OF EX-USS BOWMAN COUNTY TO**  
5                       **USS LST SHIP MEMORIAL, INC.**

6       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
7       ings:

8               (1) It is the long-standing policy of the United  
9       States Government to deny requests for the retrans-

1       fer of significant military equipment that originated  
2       in the United States to private entities.

3           (2) In very exceptional circumstances, when the  
4       United States public interest would be served by the  
5       proposed retransfer and end-use, such requests may  
6       be favorably considered.

7           (3) Such retransfers to private entities have  
8       been authorized in very exceptional circumstances  
9       following appropriate demilitarization and receipt of  
10      assurances from the private entity that the item to  
11      be transferred would be used solely in furtherance of  
12      Federal Government contracts or for static museum  
13      display.

14          (4) Nothing in this section should be construed  
15      as a revision of long-standing policy referred to in  
16      paragraph (1).

17          (5) The Government of Greece has requested  
18      the consent of the United States Government to the  
19      retransfer of HS Rodos (ex-USS Bowman County  
20      (LST 391)) to the USS LST Ship Memorial, Inc.

21      (b) AUTHORITY TO CONSENT TO RETRANSFER.—

22          (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
23      the President may consent to the retransfer by the  
24      Government of Greece of HS Rodos (ex-USS Bow-

1 man County (LST 391)) to the USS LST Ship Me-  
2 morial, Inc.

3 (2) CONDITIONS FOR CONSENT.—The President  
4 should not exercise the authority under paragraph  
5 (1) unless the USS LST Memorial, Inc.—

6 (A) utilizes the vessel for public, nonprofit,  
7 museum-related purposes; and

8 (B) complies with applicable law with re-  
9 spect to the vessel, including those requirements  
10 related to facilitating monitoring by the Federal  
11 Government of, and mitigating potential envi-  
12 ronmental hazards associated with, aging ves-  
13 sels, and has a demonstrated financial capabil-  
14 ity to so comply.

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