

H. Res. 591

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

November 15 (legislative day, November 14), 2002.

Whereas President Thomas Jefferson received the approval of Congress on 6 February 28, 1803, to fund an expedition into the West with orders to explore the Missouri River and such tributaries as might lead to the Pacific Ocean on the most direct and practicable water route for purposes of commerce, in addition to which, the expedition was to gather scientific and geographical information, and to encourage peace among any Indian Nations encountered;

Whereas Meriwether Lewis, Captain of the First Regiment of Infantry, and former Secretary to President Jefferson, was appointed to lead the expedition, and he selected, with the approval of the President, William Clark to serve equally as a Captain in a leadership role;

Whereas the Expedition returned to St. Louis, Missouri, on September 23, 1806, after a 28-month journey covering 8,000 miles during which it traversed 11 future States: Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon; and

Whereas the expedition was one of the most remarkable and productive scientific and military exploratory expeditions in all American history: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives directs the National Park Service to form a committee for the purpose of establishing guidelines to launch a national design competition for the following project: In as much as Congress desires to memorialize the Lewis and Clark Expedition and because the City of Louis was the departing and returning points of the Expedition as depicted by its Gateway to the West Arch, therefore the City of St. Louis should display a proper recognition of these great men in the form of a heroic sculpture portraying the Expedition to be built in the Luther Ely Smith Park in downtown St. Louis, which lies between the Arch and the Old Courthouse, all now governed by the National Park Service.

Attest:

Clerk.