

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2237

To establish within the National Park Service the 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution Commemorative program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2003

Mr. HINCHEY (for himself, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. McNULTY, and Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To establish within the National Park Service the 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution Commemorative program, and for other purposes.

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 “225th Anniversary of
5 the American Revolution Commemoration Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

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

8 (1) The American Revolution, inspired by the
9 spirit of liberty and independence among the inhab-

1 itants of the original 13 colonies of Great Britain,
2 was an event of global significance having a pro-
3 found and lasting effect upon American Government,
4 laws, culture, society, and values.

5 (2) The years 2000 through 2008 mark the
6 225th anniversary of the Revolutionary War.

7 (3) Every generation of American citizens
8 should have an opportunity to understand and ap-
9 preciate the continuing legacy of the American Revo-
10 lution.

11 (4) This 225th anniversary provides an oppor-
12 tunity to enhance public awareness and under-
13 standing of the impact of the American Revolution's
14 legacy on the lives of citizens today.

15 (5) Although the National Park Service admin-
16 isters battlefields, historical parks, historic sites, and
17 programs that address elements of the story of the
18 American Revolution, there is a need to establish
19 partnerships that link sites and programs adminis-
20 tered by the National Park Service with those of
21 other Federal and non-Federal entities in order to
22 place the story of the American Revolution in the
23 broad context of its causes, consequences, and mean-
24 ings.

1 (6) The story and significance of the American
2 Revolution can best engage the American people
3 through a national program of the National Park
4 Service that links historic structures and sites,
5 routes, activities, community projects, exhibits, and
6 multimedia materials, in a manner that is both uni-
7 fied and flexible.

8 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as fol-
9 lows:

10 (1) To recognize the enduring importance of
11 the American Revolution in the lives of American
12 citizens today.

13 (2) To authorize the National Park Service to
14 coordinate, connect, and facilitate Federal and non-
15 Federal activities to commemorate, honor, and inter-
16 pret the history of the American Revolution, its sig-
17 nificance, and its relevance to the shape and spirit
18 of American Government and society.

19 **SEC. 3. 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLU-**
20 **TION COMMEMORATION PROGRAM.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior
22 (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
23 shall establish a program to be known as the “225th Anni-
24 versary of the American Revolution Commemoration”
25 (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the “225th Anniver-

1 sary’). In administering the 225th Anniversary, the Sec-
2 retary shall—

3 (1) produce and disseminate to appropriate per-
4 sons educational materials, such as handbooks,
5 maps, interpretive guides, or electronic information
6 related to the 225th Anniversary and the American
7 Revolution;

8 (2) enter into appropriate cooperative agree-
9 ments and memoranda of understanding to provide
10 technical assistance under subsection (c);

11 (3) assist in the protection of resources associ-
12 ated with the American Revolution;

13 (4) enhance communications, connections, and
14 collaboration among the National Park Service units
15 and programs related to the Revolutionary War;

16 (5) expand the research base for American Rev-
17 olution interpretation and education; and

18 (6) create and adopt an official, uniform symbol
19 or device for the theme “Lighting Freedom’s Flame:
20 American Revolution, 225th Anniversary” and issue
21 regulations for its use.

22 (b) ELEMENTS.—The 225th Anniversary shall en-
23 compass the following elements:

1 (1) All units and programs of the National
2 Park Service determined by the Secretary to pertain
3 to the American Revolution.

4 (2) Other governmental and nongovernmental
5 sites, facilities, and programs of an educational, re-
6 search, or interpretive nature that are documented
7 to be directly related to the American Revolution.

8 (3) Through the Secretary of State, the partici-
9 pation of the Governments of the United Kingdom,
10 France, the Netherlands, Spain, and Canada.

11 (c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND MEMORANDA
12 OF UNDERSTANDING.—To achieve the purposes of this
13 Act and to ensure effective coordination of the Federal
14 and non-Federal elements of the 225th Anniversary with
15 National Park Service units and programs, the Secretary
16 may enter into cooperative agreements and memoranda of
17 understanding with, and provide technical assistance to,
18 the following:

19 (1) The heads of other Federal agencies,
20 States, units of local government, and private enti-
21 ties.

22 (2) In cooperation with the Secretary of State,
23 the Governments of the United Kingdom, France,
24 the Netherlands, Spain, and Canada.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
3 out this Act \$500,000 for each of fiscal years 2004
4 through 2009.

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