

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4147

To establish a servitude and emancipation archival research clearinghouse
in the National Archives.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2004

Mr. CUMMINGS (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. FORD, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TOWNS, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, and Ms. WATERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

A BILL

To establish a servitude and emancipation archival research
clearinghouse in the National Archives.

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 “Servitude and Emanci-
5 pation Archival Research ClearingHouse Act of 2004” or
6 the “SEARCH Act of 2004”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF DATABASE.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Archivist of the United
3 States shall establish, as a part of the National Archives,
4 a national database consisting of historic records of ser-
5 vitude and emancipation in the United States to assist Af-
6 rican Americans in researching their genealogy.

7 (b) MAINTENANCE.—The database established by
8 this Act shall be maintained by the National Historical
9 Publications and Records Commission.

10 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There are authorized to be appropriated—

12 (1) \$5,000,000 to establish the national data-
13 base authorized by this Act; and

14 (2) \$5,000,000 to provide grants to States and
15 colleges and universities to preserve local records of
16 servitude and emancipation.

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