

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 360

To provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 2005

Mr. THOMAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Resources

A BILL

To provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II, 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. PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC CONFINEMENT**
4 **SITES.**

5 (a) PRESERVATION PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall
6 create a program within the National Park Service to en-
7 courage, support, recognize, and work in partnership with
8 citizens, other Federal agencies, State, local, and tribal
9 governments, other public entities, educational institu-

1 tions, and private nonprofit organizations for the purpose
2 of identifying, researching, evaluating, interpreting, pro-
3 tecting, restoring, repairing, and acquiring historic con-
4 finement sites in order that present and future genera-
5 tions may learn and gain inspiration from these sites and
6 that these sites will demonstrate the Nation's commitment
7 to equal justice under the law.

8 (b) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make grants to
9 citizens, State, local, and tribal governments, other public
10 entities, educational institutions, and private nonprofit or-
11 ganizations to assist in carrying out the actions described
12 in subsection (a).

13 **SEC. 2. ADVISORY COMMISSION.**

14 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an advi-
15 sory commission to be known as the Advisory Commission
16 to Preserve World War II Historic Confinement Sites.

17 (b) DUTIES.—The Advisory Commission shall pro-
18 vide guidance to the Secretary with respect to the imple-
19 mentation and administration of section 1. Such guidance
20 shall include recommending measures to encourage public
21 involvement in the actions described in section 1(a), rec-
22 ommending priorities for the administration of grants de-
23 scribed in section 1(b), and reviewing and making rec-
24 ommendations with respect to proposals for grants sub-
25 mitted pursuant to section 1(b).

1 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Commission shall
2 be composed of 21 members appointed by the Secretary
3 and shall include former internees, local residents, rep-
4 resentatives of Native American groups, and members of
5 the general public. Each member shall be appointed for
6 a term of 2 years. A member may serve after the expira-
7 tion of that member’s term until a successor has taken
8 office.

9 (d) CHAIRPERSON.—The members of the Advisory
10 Commission shall designate one of the members as Chair-
11 person.

12 (e) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Commission shall
13 meet at least once during each fiscal year. Notice of Advi-
14 sory Commission meetings shall be published in local
15 newspapers. Advisory Commission meetings shall be held
16 at such locations and in such a manner as to ensure ade-
17 quate public involvement.

18 (f) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Advisory Com-
19 mission shall serve without compensation, but while en-
20 gaged in official business of the Advisory Commission shall
21 be entitled to travel expenses, including per diem in lieu
22 of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions
23 under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States
24 Code.

1 (g) TERMINATION.—Section 14 of the Federal Advi-
2 sory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.; relating to the termi-
3 nation of advisory committees) shall not apply to the Advi-
4 sory Commission.

5 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

6 For purposes of this Act—

7 (1) the term “Advisory Commission” means the
8 Advisory Commission to Preserve World War II His-
9 toric Confinement Sites established in section 2;

10 (2) the term “historic confinement sites”
11 means—

12 (A) the 10 internment camp sites referred
13 to as Gila River, Granada, Heart Mountain, Je-
14 rôme, Manzanar, Minidoka, Poston, Rohwer,
15 Topaz, and Tule Lake and depicted in Figures
16 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.4, 9.2, 10.6, 11.2, 12.2,
17 and 13.2, respectively, in “Confinement and
18 Ethnicity: An Overview of World War II Japa-
19 nese American Relocation Sites”, published by
20 the Western Archeological and Conservation
21 Center, National Park Service, in 1999; and

22 (B) other historically significant locations,
23 as determined by the Secretary, where Japanese
24 Americans were detained during World War II;
25 and

1 (3) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
2 of the Interior.

3 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
5 retary such sums as may be necessary for the purpose of
6 carrying out this Act. Such sums shall remain available
7 until expended.

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