

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 249

Celebrating the recent discovery of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker in Eastern Arkansas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2005

Mr. BERRY (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SNYDER, and Mr. ROSS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

RESOLUTION

Celebrating the recent discovery of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker in Eastern Arkansas.

Whereas the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker has recently been discovered and verified in the Big Woods region of Arkansas;

Whereas the last confirmed sighting of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker was in 1988 in the Sierra de Moa Mountains of Eastern Cuba;

Whereas the last known population of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker in the United States disappeared in 1948;

Whereas previous to the discovery in Arkansas, the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker was thought to be extinct; and

Whereas the discovery of this species that was once feared to be extinct highlights the current success of private landowners in managing resources in a responsible manner: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) celebrates the recent discovery of the Ivory-
3 Billed Woodpecker in Eastern Arkansas;

4 (2) congratulates Gene Sparling of Hot
5 Springs, Arkansas, who on February 11, 2004, spotted
6 an Ivory-Billed Woodpecker while kayaking in
7 the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge;

8 (3) commends Tim Gallagher, editor of the Cor-
9 nell Lab of Ornithology's Living Bird Magazine, and
10 Bobby Harrison, associate professor at Oakwood
11 College, in Huntsville, Alabama, for their hard work
12 and determination in verifying the presence of the
13 Ivory-Billed Woodpecker in Arkansas;

14 (4) commends David Luneau, associate pro-
15 fessor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock,
16 for his work in video recording the Ivory-Billed
17 Woodpecker and the important role this evidence
18 played in verifying the species' presence;

19 (5) commends the private and public land-
20 owners of Arkansas, who through sound conserva-
21 tion and land management practices had the fore-

1 sight to protect this critical habitat in a manner that
2 ensured the viability of this vulnerable species;

3 (6) encourages the Department of the Interior,
4 the Department of Agriculture, and their various
5 agencies to continue to work with all parties in the
6 State of Arkansas who have so successfully main-
7 tained this critical habitat; and

8 (7) congratulates the Arkansas Game and Fish
9 Commission, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Com-
10 mission, and the Nature Conservancy for their lead-
11 ership in taking a balanced approach to ensure the
12 preservation of bottomland hardwood habitat.

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