

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2144

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum located in St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 19, 2005

Mr. TALENT introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum located in St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System.

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. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STUDY REGARDING**

4                       **THE SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL MILITARY MU-**  
5                       **SEUM.**

6       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1           (1) the Soldiers' Memorial is a tribute to all  
2 veterans located in the greater St. Louis area, in-  
3 cluding Southern Illinois;

4           (2) the current annual budget for the memorial  
5 is \$185,000 and is paid for exclusively by the City  
6 of St. Louis;

7           (3) in 1923, the City of St. Louis voted to  
8 spend \$6,000,000 to purchase a memorial plaza and  
9 building dedicated to citizens of St. Louis who lost  
10 their lives in World War I;

11           (4) the purchase of the 7-block site exhausted  
12 the funds and no money remained to construct a  
13 monument;

14           (5) in 1933, Mayor Bernard F. Dickmann ap-  
15 pealed to citizens and the city government to raise  
16 \$1,000,000 to construct a memorial building and  
17 general improvement of the plaza area, and the con-  
18 struction of Soldiers' Memorial began on October  
19 21, 1935;

20           (6) on October 14, 1936, President Franklin D.  
21 Roosevelt officially dedicated the site; and

22           (7) on Memorial Day in 1938, Mayor  
23 Dickmann opened the building to the public.

24           (b) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall carry  
25 out a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of

1 designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum, lo-  
2 cated at 1315 Chestnut, St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit  
3 of the National Park System.

4 (c) STUDY PROCESS AND COMPLETION.—Section  
5 8(c) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)) shall  
6 apply to the conduct and completion of the study under  
7 this section.

8 (d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the  
9 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-  
10 ate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Rep-  
11 resentatives a report describing the results the study  
12 under this section.

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