

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5944

To establish the History Is Learned from the Living grant program to enable communities to learn about historical movements in the United States in the past century through the oral histories of community members who participated in those movements, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 21, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the History Is Learned from the Living grant program to enable communities to learn about historical movements in the United States in the past century through the oral histories of community members who participated in those movements, 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 “History Is Learned
5 from the Living Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PRESERVATION**
2 **OF STORIES OF HEROES OF HISTORICAL**
3 **MOVEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.**

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

5 (1) The historical movements in the United
6 States over the past century have been integral to
7 growth, progress, and innovation in the United
8 States.

9 (2) Notable examples of such historical move-
10 ments include the Women’s Suffrage, Reagan Revo-
11 lution, Peace, Veteran, Civil Rights, Tea Party, Chi-
12 cano (El Movimiento), Pro-Life, Environmental, and
13 Deficit Reduction Movements.

14 (3) Martin Luther King, Jr., Phyllis Schlafly,
15 Cesar Chavez, William Buckley, Susan B. Anthony,
16 and Ronald Reagan are among the many well-known
17 heroes of such historical movements.

18 (4) In addition to the well-known heroes of such
19 historical movements, there are numerous unsung
20 heroes living in local communities across the United
21 States.

22 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
23 gress that the stories of the unsung heroes of historical
24 movements in the United States over the past century
25 should be preserved and archived, and the historical move-

1 ments in which they participated remembered, for genera-
2 tions to come.

3 **SEC. 3. HISTORY IS LEARNED FROM THE LIVING GRANT**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (a) GRANT PROGRAM.—There is established the His-
6 tory Is Learned from the Living grant program (in this
7 section referred to as the “HILL grant program”), to be
8 carried out by the Secretary of the Interior.

9 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Under the HILL grant pro-
10 gram, the Secretary shall make 1-year grants in the
11 amount of \$50,000 to community groups, organizations,
12 or institutions to—

13 (1) carry out projects through which the com-
14 munity may learn about historical movements in the
15 United States in the past century through the oral
16 histories of members of the community who partici-
17 pated in those movements; and

18 (2) submit to the Secretary a digital report on
19 the projects, in such form and containing such infor-
20 mation as may be specified by the Secretary, includ-
21 ing—

22 (A) each oral history described in para-
23 graph (1);

24 (B) the relevance of such oral history; and

1 (C) the background of the community
2 member to whom the oral history belongs.

3 (c) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant under
4 this section, a community group, organization, or institu-
5 tion shall submit to the Secretary an application at such
6 time, in such manner, and containing such information as
7 the Secretary may require.

8 (d) PRESERVATION OF ORAL HISTORIES.—The Sec-
9 retary shall establish a system to preserve and make avail-
10 able to the public the digital reports submitted under sub-
11 section (b)(2).

12 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
13 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
14 out the HILL grant program \$5,000,000 for fiscal year
15 2018 and each fiscal year thereafter.

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