

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 56

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to annually designate at least one city in the United States as an “American World War II Heritage City”, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 8, 2019

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

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to annually designate at least one city in the United States as an “American World War II Heritage City”, 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. AMERICAN WORLD WAR II HERITAGE CITIES.**

4 (a) DESIGNATION.—In order to recognize and ensure
5 the continued preservation and importance of the history
6 of the United States involvement in World War II, each
7 calendar year the Secretary of the Interior (referred to
8 in this section as the “Secretary”) may designate not less

1 than one city located in one of the several States or a terri-
 2 tory of the United States as an “American World War
 3 II Heritage City”. Not more than one city in each State
 4 or territory may be designated under this section.

5 (b) APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION.—The Sec-
 6 retary shall—

7 (1) establish and publicize the process by which
 8 a city may apply for designation as an American
 9 World War II Heritage City based on the criteria in
 10 subsection (c); and

11 (2) encourage cities to apply for designation as
 12 an American World War II Heritage City.

13 (c) CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION.—The Secretary, in
 14 consultation with the Secretary of the Smithsonian Insti-
 15 tution or the President of the National Trust for Historic
 16 Preservation, shall make each designation under sub-
 17 section (a) based on the following criteria:

18 (1) Contributions by a city and its environs to
 19 the World War II home-front war effort, including
 20 contributions related to—

21 (A) defense manufacturing, such as ships,
 22 aircraft, uniforms, and equipment;

23 (B) production of foodstuffs and consumer
 24 items for Armed Forces and home consumption;

25 (C) war bond drives;

- 1 (D) adaptations to wartime survival;
- 2 (E) volunteer participation;
- 3 (F) civil defense preparedness;
- 4 (G) personnel serving in the Armed
- 5 Forces, their achievements, and facilities for
- 6 their rest and recreation; or
- 7 (H) the presence of Armed Forces camps,
- 8 bases, airfields, harbors, repair facilities, and
- 9 other installations within or in its environs.
- 10 (2) Achievements by a city and its environs to
- 11 preserve the heritage and legacy of the city's con-
- 12 tributions to the war effort and to preserve World
- 13 War II history, including—
- 14 (A) the identification, preservation, res-
- 15 toration, and interpretation of World War II re-
- 16 lated structures, facilities and sites;
- 17 (B) establishment of museums, parks, and
- 18 markers;
- 19 (C) establishment of memorials to area
- 20 men who lost their lives in service;
- 21 (D) organizing groups of veterans and
- 22 home-front workers and their recognition;
- 23 (E) presentation of cultural events such as
- 24 dances, plays, and lectures;

1 (F) public relations outreach through the
2 print and electronic media, and books; and

3 (G) recognition and ceremonies remem-
4 bering wartime event anniversaries.

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