

Public Law 85-775

August 27, 1958
[H. J. Res. 648]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for a joint session of Congress for commemorating the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

Whereas Thursday, February 12, 1959, will mark the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, sixteenth President of the United States; and

Whereas Mr. Lincoln is our best example of that personal fulfillment which American institutions permit and encourage; and

Whereas his memory endures in the hearts and minds and strivings of his own people in every generation; and

Whereas his actions, words, and deeds and their meaning bring hope, fortitude, and renewed conviction to the freedom loving people who are in mental and physical agony all over the world; and

Whereas he declared: "I wish all men to be free."; and

Whereas a century ago he said: "Our reliance is in the love of liberty which God has planted in our bosoms. Our defense is in the preservation of the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere."; and

Whereas he wrote: "As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the differences, is no democracy."; and

Whereas he once admonished us: "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew."; and

Whereas he calls upon us: "Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well wisher to his posterity, swear by the blood of the Revolution, never to violate in the least particular, the laws of the country; and never to tolerate their violation by others. As the patriots of seventy-six did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and laws, let every American pledge his life, his property, and his sacred honor; let every man remember that to violate the law, is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the charter of his own and his children's liberty. Let reverence for the laws, be breathed by every American mother, to the lisping babe, that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges; let it be written in primers, spelling books, and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the political religion of the Nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay, of all sexes and tongues, and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars."; and

Whereas "it is for us the living . . . to be dedicated here" to the principles of those who, like Mr. Lincoln, "gave the last full measure of devotion"; and

Whereas he was himself once a member of this honorable body; and

Whereas on Monday, February 12, 1866, in the presence of the President of the United States, the members of his Cabinet, the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, the diplomatic corps, officers of the Army and Navy, assistant heads of departments, the governors of States and Territories, and others in authority, the two Houses of Congress convened in joint session to hear "an address upon the life and character of Abraham Lincoln, late President of the United States," pronounced by an eminent historian, the Honorable George Bancroft: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on Thursday, February 12 next, the sesquicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln shall be commemorated by a joint session of the Congress, and to that end the President of the Senate will appoint four Members of the Senate and the Speaker of the House will appoint four Members of the House of Representatives jointly to constitute a Committee on Arrangements.

Abraham Lincoln
Sesquicentennial
commemoration,
1959.

The Committee on Arrangements shall plan the proceedings, issue appropriate invitations and select a distinguished Lincoln scholar to deliver the memorial address; and be it further

Resolved, That the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, Secretaries of departments, heads of independent agencies, offices and commissions, the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, the diplomatic corps, assistant heads of departments, and the members of the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission be invited to join in this commemoration.

Approved August 27, 1958.

Public Law 85-776

AN ACT

To amend Public Law 522, Eighty-fourth Congress (relating to the conveyance of certain lands to the city of Henderson, Nevada).

August 27, 1958
[S. 3723]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public lands in the State of Nevada to the city of Henderson, Nevada," approved May 14, 1956 (70 Stat. 156), is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

Henderson, Nev.
Conveyance.

"SEC. 3. Nothing contained in the preceding provisions of this Act shall be construed to preclude the city of Henderson, Nevada, from purchasing, in accordance with such preceding provisions, only such portion or portions, by legal subdivision of the public land surveys, of the above-described lands as such city elects, nor shall the purchase by such city of only a portion or portions of such lands be construed to constitute a waiver or relinquishment of any of its rights under this Act to purchase, in accordance with such preceding provisions and by legal subdivisions of the public land surveys, the remainder of such lands, or any portion thereof."

Purchase rights.

Approved August 27, 1958.

Public Law 85-777

AN ACT

To extend title VII of the Public Health Service Act (relating to health research facilities) for three years, and for other purposes.

August 27, 1958
[H. R. 12876]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) section 704 of title VII of the Public Health Service Act is amended by striking out "two" and inserting in lieu thereof "five".

70 Stat. 718.
42 USC 292c.

(b) Subsection (a) of section 705 of title VII of the Public Health Service Act is amended by striking out "1958" and inserting in lieu thereof "1961".

42 USC 292d.

Approved August 27, 1958.