

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1076

To authorize construction of an education center at or near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 19, 2003

Mr. HAGEL (for himself, Mr. McCAIN, and Mr. KERRY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize construction of an education center at or near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

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 “Vietnam Veterans Me-
5 morial Education Center Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL EDUCATION CEN-**
7 **TER.**

8 Public Law 96–297 (16 U.S.C. 431 note) is amended
9 by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 6. EDUCATION CENTER.**

2 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—(1) The Vietnam Veterans
3 Memorial Fund, Inc., is authorized to construct an edu-
4 cation center at or near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial
5 site, subject to the provisions of this section, in order to
6 better inform and educate the public about the Vietnam
7 Veterans Memorial.

8 “(2) The education center may be located above
9 ground or underground, as determined through the ap-
10 proval process set forth under chapter 89 of title 40,
11 United States Code, and this section.

12 “(3) As used in this section, the term ‘education cen-
13 ter’ or ‘center’ means a building or other structure ap-
14 proved in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United
15 States Code, and this section.

16 “(b) APPLICABLE LAW.—(1) Chapter 89 of title 40,
17 United States Code, shall apply to the education center,
18 and the center shall be considered a commemorative work
19 for the purposes of that Act, except that—

20 “(A) final approval of the education center shall
21 not be withheld; and

22 “(B) the provisions of section 8908(b)(1) of
23 title 40, United States Code, requiring approval by
24 law for the location of a commemorative work within
25 Area I, shall not apply.

1 “(2) The size of the education center shall be limited
2 to the minimum necessary—

3 “(A) to provide for appropriate educational and
4 interpretive functions; and

5 “(B) to prevent interference or encroachment
6 on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and to protect
7 open space and visual sightlines on the Mall.

8 “(3) The education center shall be constructed and
9 landscaped in a manner harmonious with the site of the
10 Vietnam Veterans Memorial, consistent with the special
11 nature and sanctity of the Mall.

12 “(c) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—(1) The edu-
13 cation center shall be operated and maintained by the Sec-
14 retary of the Interior.

15 “(2) This subsection does not waive section 8906(b)
16 of title 40, United States Code (requiring the donation of
17 funds to offset the costs of perpetual maintenance and
18 preservation of the commemorative work).

19 “(d) FUNDING.—All funds required for the planning,
20 design, and construction of the education center shall be
21 provided by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc.
22 No Federal funds shall be used for the planning, design,
23 or construction of the center.”.

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