

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3026

To authorize the Military Spouse Legacy Association, Inc., to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor all those who have put their country first as military spouses throughout our Nation's history.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2007

Mrs. DRAKE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Military Spouse Legacy Association, Inc., to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor all those who have put their country first as military spouses throughout our Nation's history.

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 “Military Spouses Me-
5 morial Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) From the earliest days of our Nation to the
2 present day, the military spouse has been the back-
3 bone of the military family.

4 (2) Our military members have answered our
5 Nation's call to duty due to the strong support and
6 selflessness of the military spouse.

7 (3) The military spouse is the unsung hero who
8 has traditionally placed spouse, family, and country
9 above any personal needs or ambitions.

10 (4) The strength, sense of purpose, and courage
11 shown by the military spouse in maintaining the co-
12 hesion of their family during both war and peace-
13 time has been instrumental in the retention and mo-
14 rale of our Nation's military.

15 (5) Our military widows have shared in their
16 spouses' last full measure of devotion and deserve
17 the recognition, respect, and thanks of a grateful
18 Nation.

19 (6) President Ronald Reagan, in honoring the
20 legacy of the military spouse, proclaimed the Friday
21 before Mother's Day to be Military Spouse Day.

22 (7) It is appropriate to extend this recognition
23 into a permanent national monument to commemo-
24 rate the instrumental contribution, service, and sac-
25 rifice of every military spouse.

1 (8) Every married service member recognizes
2 the contributions and dedication of their military
3 spouse and the time has come for the Nation as a
4 whole to honor all military spouses for their service
5 to our country.

6 (9) This monument will recognize all spouses
7 from the revolutionary war to the present day war
8 on terror and all conflicts that come in the future
9 and will be a universal symbol of the military spouse
10 and the strength and courage to maintain a family
11 and support our service members during war and
12 peacetime.

13 **SEC. 3. COMMEMORATIVE WORK TO HONOR MILITARY**
14 **SPOUSES.**

15 (a) **AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE**
16 **WORK.**—The Military Spouse Legacy Association, Inc.,
17 may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in
18 the District of Columbia and its environs to honor all
19 those who have put their country first as military spouses
20 throughout our Nation’s history.

21 (b) **COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMO-**
22 **RATIVE WORKS.**—The commemorative work authorized by
23 subsection (a) shall be established in accordance with
24 chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly
25 known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

1 (c) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS PROHIBITED.—Federal
2 funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establish-
3 ment of the commemorative work authorized by subsection
4 (a). The Military Spouse Legacy Association, Inc., shall
5 be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for,
6 and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of that
7 commemorative work.

8 (d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—If, upon payment
9 of all expenses of the establishment of the commemorative
10 work authorized by subsection (a) (including the mainte-
11 nance and preservation amount provided for in section
12 8906(b), of title 40, United States Code), or upon expira-
13 tion of the authority for the commemorative work under
14 chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code, there remains
15 a balance of funds received for the establishment of that
16 commemorative work, the Military Spouse Legacy Asso-
17 ciation, Inc., shall transmit the amount of the balance to
18 the Secretary of the Treasury for deposit in the account
19 provided for in section 8906(b)(1) of such title.

20 (e) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section,
21 the terms “commemorative work” and “the District of Co-
22 lumbia and its environs” have the meanings given to such
23 terms in section 8902(a) of title 40, United States Code.

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