

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7252

To designate the structure of the Gateway Arch and the Old St. Louis Courthouse as National Historic Landmarks, to designate the grounds of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial surrounding the Arch for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 2008

Mr. CLAY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To designate the structure of the Gateway Arch and the Old St. Louis Courthouse as National Historic Landmarks, to designate the grounds of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial surrounding the Arch for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, 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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) The Jefferson National Expansion Memo-
6 rial was conceived in the 1930s to preserve St.

1 Louis's role as the "Gateway to the West". Land
2 was acquired, competitions were held, the renowned
3 Arch was completed on October 28, 1965, and the
4 Arch itself was designated a National Historic Land-
5 mark on May 28, 1987.

6 (2) The original purpose of the Memorial, as
7 described in President Roosevelt's 1935 Executive
8 Order and later in the Jefferson National Expansion
9 Memorial Act of 1954, was to commemorate the
10 past, and especially, to keep alive the daring and
11 spirit that moved pioneers to press westward before
12 and after the consummation of the Louisiana Pur-
13 chase and the historic role of the rivers and St.
14 Louis in westward expansion.

15 (3) To fully realize the true promise and signifi-
16 cance of the Memorial and its Landmark, the Arch,
17 the Memorial should connect with and be more ac-
18 cessible to the urban population and the river and
19 commemorate the pioneering spirit of migration
20 throughout the Nation by providing a visitor experi-
21 ence that includes educational, instructional, and re-
22 search programs, facilities, and technology dem-
23 onstrating—

24 (A) the broad diversity of migrants;

1 (B) the policies and conditions that pro-
2 duced migration;

3 (C) the impact of migration on the polit-
4 ical, economic, social, and architectural develop-
5 ment of the Nation; and

6 (D) a focus on African-American migration
7 patterns from slavery to the underground rail-
8 road, and especially the migration of African-
9 Americans from the south to northern indus-
10 trial cities.

11 (4) The project described in paragraph (3)
12 should be completed by October 28, 2015, the 50th
13 anniversary of the completion of the Arch, so that
14 the area will be available to better engage the Amer-
15 ican public when the Centennial of the National
16 Park Service is celebrated in 2016.

17 (5) The Jefferson National Expansion Memo-
18 rial Act of 1954, which authorized the construction
19 of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial and
20 directed the Secretary to construct the Memorial in
21 accordance with the Eero Saarinen's winning design
22 for the development and construction of the Memo-
23 rial, recognized the importance of highly visible cul-
24 tural facilities and other attractions on the grounds
25 of the Memorial to its central purpose of promoting

1 the connection and significance of the historic St.
2 Louis riverfront to the rest of the region, and in
3 turn, the region to the Nation.

4 (6) The Museum of Westward Expansion
5 should be significantly improved before the Centen-
6 nial of the National Park Service is celebrated in
7 2016.

8 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

9 For the purposes of this Act:

10 (1) MEMORIAL.—The term “Memorial” means
11 the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

12 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
13 the Secretary of the Interior.

14 (3) TRUST.—The term “Trust” means the Jef-
15 ferson National Expansion Memorial Trust

16 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK STATUS OF THE**
17 **GATEWAY ARCH.**

18 To ensure the protections of the National Historic
19 Preservation Act—

20 (1) the structure of the Gateway Arch and the
21 Old St. Louis Courthouse are hereby designated by
22 Congress as National Historic Landmarks; and

23 (2) the grounds of the Memorial surrounding
24 the Arch are hereby designated by Congress for in-
25 clusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

1 **SEC. 4. AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.**

2 The Secretary may take the following actions:

3 (1) Enter into agreements with the Trust to
4 plan and develop the St. Louis riverfront between
5 Eads and Poplar Street bridges, the Memorial
6 grounds including the interstate highway and road-
7 ways now traversing them, Luther Ely Smith
8 Square, and the Old Courthouse as a single project
9 area. The master plan for the project area and the
10 design of its highly visible elements shall be created
11 pursuant to international design competitions to be
12 conducted by the Trust as extensive as the 1947
13 competition which resulted in the selection of Eero
14 Saarinen's Arch design.

15 (2) Enter into an agreement with the Trust to
16 facilitate the planning, construction, and operation
17 of a cultural facility on Federal land within the
18 boundary of the Jefferson National Expansion Me-
19 morial to enhance the visitor experience of the Me-
20 morial and for exhibitions, learning and interpreta-
21 tion associated with American migration, and other
22 terms and conditions the Secretary determines to be
23 necessary. An agreement authorizing the Trust to
24 occupy or operate the cultural facility shall also pro-
25 vide for conveyance by the Trust to the United

1 States of all right, title, and interest in such cultural
2 facility.

3 (3) Transfer one or more portions of the Memo-
4 rial grounds to the administrative jurisdiction of the
5 Trust and enter into agreements with the Trust for
6 the Trust to assist in the implementation of the
7 Final General Management Plan and Record of De-
8 cision.

9 (4) Enter into agreements with the Trust for
10 such other facilities and services provided in the de-
11 sign competitions in furtherance of the purposes of
12 this Act, including completing the project described
13 in paragraph (3) of section 1 not later than October
14 28, 2015.

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