111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6561

To establish the History is Learned from the Living grant program to enable communities to learn about historical events in the United States in the past century through the oral histories of community members who participated in those events, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 21, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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A BILL

To establish the History is Learned from the Living grant program to enable communities to learn about historical events in the United States in the past century through the oral histories of community members who participated in those events, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4   This Act may be cited as the "History Is Learned

5   from the Living Act".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PRESERVATION OF STORIES OF HEROES OF HISTORICAL MOVEMENTS AND EVENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The historical events in the United States over the past century have been integral to growth, progress, and innovation in the United States.

(2) Notable examples of such historical movements include the Women's Suffrage, Reagan Revolution, Peace, Veteran, Civil Rights, Tea Party, Chicano (El Movimiento), Environmental, and Deficit Reduction Movements.

(3) Martin Luther King, Jr., Gloria Steinem, Cesar Chavez, William Buckley, Susan B. Anthony, Jacques-Yves Cousteau, Rachel Carson, Howard Jarvis and John Muir are among the many well-known heroes of such historical events.

(4) In addition to the well-known heroes of such historical events, there are numerous unsung heroes living in local communities across the United States.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the stories of the unsung heroes of historical events in the United States over the past century should be preserved and archived, and the historical events in

1 which they participated remembered, for generations to

2 come.

SEC. 3. HISTORY IS LEARNED FROM THE LIVING GRANT

PROGRAM.

5 (a) GRANT PROGRAM.—There is established the His-

6 tory Is Learned from the Living grant program (in this

7 section referred to as the "HILL grant program"), to be

8 carried out by the Secretary of the Interior.

9 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Under the HILL grant pro-

10 gram, the Secretary shall make 1-year grants in the

11 amount of $200,000 to community groups, organizations,

12 or institutions to—

13 (1) carry out projects through which the com-

14 munity may learn about historical events in the

15 United States in the past century through the oral

16 histories of members of the community who partici-

17 pated in those events; and

18 (2) submit to the Secretary a digital report (in-

19 cluding interviews, documents, videos, photos, etc.)

20 on the projects, in such form and containing such

21 information as may be specified by the Secretary, in-

22 cluding but not limited to—

23 (A) each oral history described in para-

24 graph (1);

25 (B) the relevance of such oral history; and

1   (C) the background of those interviewed

2   and the community, organizations and/or insti-

3   tutions to whom the oral history belongs.

4   (c) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant under

5 this section, a community group, organization, or institu-

6 tion shall submit to the Secretary an application at such

7 time, in such manner, and containing such information as

8 the Secretary may require.

9   (d) PRESERVATION OF ORAL HISTORIES.—The Sec-

10 retary shall establish a system to preserve and make avail-

11 able to the public the digital reports submitted under sub-

12 section (b)(2).

13   (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There

14 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry

15 out the HILL grant program $5,000,000 for fiscal year

16 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter.

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