

House Calendar No. 116

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 465

[Report No. 111-285]

Recognizing the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association on the occasion of its 10th anniversary, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2009

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

OCTOBER 6, 2009

Additional sponsors: Mr. JONES, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. MCINTYRE, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. NYE, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. KLEIN of Florida

OCTOBER 6, 2009

Reported with amendments, referred to the House Calendar, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out the preamble and insert the part printed in italic]

[Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in italic]

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association on the occasion of its 10th anniversary, and for other purposes.

Whereas the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), completed in 1940, runs along the southeast coast of the United States from Norfolk, Virginia, to Miami, Florida, and measures 1088 miles long;

Whereas the AIWW was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1937 to provide a safe inside navigation channel for commercial shipping, support for and encouragement of interstate commerce, and safe harbor and protection for shipping from inclement weather and wartime enemy attack;

Whereas although authorized to a depth of 12 feet mean low water, the AIWW has not been maintained in a satisfactory manner and has controlling depths as shallow as 4 feet in some locations;

Whereas the lack of regular, adequate maintenance of the AIWW has created serious navigation hazards for commercial and recreational users;

Whereas if maintained at the authorized depth, the AIWW could serve as a safe, fuel efficient, and economical alternative to congested highways and rail lines for some cargo;

Whereas the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association was organized in 1999 to address the navigation challenges of the AIWW and to encourage the continuation and further development of waterborne commerce and recreation on the AIWW of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida;

Whereas since its founding, the Association has been a persistent and outspoken advocate for regular dredging and adequate maintenance to promote safe, cost effective navigation;

Whereas the Association has voiced the interests of commercial and recreational users of the AIWW, earning the title of “Voice of the Waterway”;

Whereas the Association promotes the AIWW as a vital marine highway along the Atlantic coast, providing safe navigation for commercial and recreational vessels;

Whereas the Association has been a consistent force for protecting the integrity of the AIWW and securing its reputation as an important economic engine for the Nation and the region; and

Whereas the Association has had many achievements over 10 years, including successfully advocating for—

(1) additional funds to be added annually to Federal and State budgets for waterway maintenance;

(2) economic studies to be conducted to show the economic importance of the waterway;

(3) the funding of a regional Dredged Material Management Plan for the waterway;

(4) the States to become more involved in waterway maintenance; and

(5) coordinating the many interested parties to work together for the waterway. Now, therefore, be it

Whereas the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1937 to provide a safe inside navigation channel for commercial shipping, support for and encouragement of interstate commerce, and safe harbor and protection for shipping from inclement weather and wartime enemy attack;

Whereas the AIWW, completed in 1940, runs along the southeast coast of the United States from Norfolk, Virginia, to Key West, Florida, and measures 1,088 miles long;

Whereas segments of the intracoastal waterway on the Atlantic Coast received their initial congressional authorization through Rivers and Harbors Acts beginning in 1880;

Whereas the AIWW is a vital transportation system providing safe, reliable, and efficient navigation for commercial, recreational, and military vessels;

Whereas the Corps of Engineers is currently engaged in flood control, hydropower production, environmental restoration, maintenance dredging, lock maintenance, recreation, and navigation projects along the AIWW;

Whereas, according to the Corps of Engineers, in 2007 the AIWW supported the transportation of 2,543,000 tons of freight traffic, including commodities such as wheat, corn, soybeans, electrical machinery, iron, coal, gasoline, fabricated metal products, and electrical machinery;

Whereas, according to the Corps of Engineers, in 2007 the AIWW supported a total of 34,184 trips made by recreational, commercial, and military vessels;

Whereas the AIWW is an integral transportation network supporting the Armed Forces through the shipment of military equipment, fuel, and generators between Norfolk, Virginia, and Kings Bay, Georgia;

Whereas the Dismal Swamp Canal, on the AIWW, is the oldest operating artificial waterway in the United States and has been placed on the National Register of Historical Places, was registered as an engineering landmark in 1988, and was included in the National Park Service's Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program in 2004;

Whereas the AIWW has enhanced the lives of the residents of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and

Florida, as well as the greater southeastern United States, for more than 6 decades;

Whereas the wildlife, flora, and fauna along the AIWW provide ample recreational opportunities for birdwatchers, photographers, and boaters;

Whereas the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association was organized in 1999 to address the navigation challenges of the AIWW and to encourage the continuation and further development of waterborne commerce and recreation on the AIWW;

Whereas the Association has voiced the interests of commercial and recreational users of the AIWW, earning the title of “Voice of the Waterway”;

Whereas the Association has been an advocate for maintenance of the AIWW to promote safe, cost-effective navigation; and

Whereas the Association promotes the AIWW as a vital marine highway along the Atlantic coast, providing safe navigation for commercial and recreational vessels: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved, That the House of Representatives—*

2 *(1) recognizes the Atlantic Intracoastal Water-*
3 *way Association on the occasion of its 10th anniver-*
4 *sary;*

5 *(2) commends the many achievements of the*
6 *Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association; and*

7 *(3) encourages the Atlantic Intracoastal Water-*
8 *way Association to continue its tradition of excel-*
9 *lence in service to Waterway users.*

1 *That the House of Representatives—*

2 *(1) recognizes the importance of the Atlantic In-*
3 *tracoastal Waterway to recreational, commercial, and*
4 *military vessels and to the history and quality of life*
5 *of the citizens of the United States; and*

6 *(2) acknowledges the Atlantic Intracoastal Wa-*
7 *terway Association on the occasion of its 10th anni-*
8 *versary.*

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