

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 499

Honoring George Rogers Clark.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 2002

Mr. HOSTETTLER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Honoring George Rogers Clark.

Whereas George Rogers Clark was a colonial frontiersman who succeeded in protecting western colonists through diplomacy and advocacy with the colonial government of Virginia;

Whereas George Rogers Clark doubled the size of colonial America through western exploration and by founding towns in Kentucky;

Whereas George Rogers Clark was an expert negotiator with American Indian tribes, securing trade and security for western colonists;

Whereas George Rogers Clark ensured American control of the Northwest Territory by leading a small band of soldiers during the Revolutionary War and successfully cap-

turing British outposts along the Mississippi and Wabash Rivers;

Whereas George Rogers Clark boldly and courageously led fewer than 200 soldiers to recapture the British Fort Sackville at Vincennes, Indiana, in the winter of 1778–1779;

Whereas the soldiers marched across Illinois through flooded and frozen territory and reached Vincennes on the evening of February 23, 1779;

Whereas upon surrounding Fort Sackville, George Rogers Clark was able to give the impression of having a much larger army convincing the British that they were no match for Clark's forces;

Whereas on the morning of February 25, 1779, the British Lieutenant Governor Henry Hamilton surrendered Fort Sackville to George Rogers Clark and his soldiers;

Whereas this victory foiled British attempts to drive the Americans out of the region west of the Appalachians and pulled vital resources from the eastern theater during the American Revolution;

Whereas George Rogers Clark showed great leadership by commanding an expedition northward in 1782 to control unrest caused by British forces in the region;

Whereas George Rogers Clark continued to offer leadership after the Revolutionary War by serving as an advisor to his community; and

Whereas the 250th anniversary of George Rogers Clark's birth is November 19, 2002: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That Congress honors George Rogers Clark,

- 1 whose patriotism and bravery helped to secure American
- 2 independence and liberty.

