

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1668

To authorize the Adams Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor former President John Adams and his family.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2001

Mr. ROEMER (for himself, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. OLVER, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. FRANK, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. KIND, and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Adams Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor former President John Adams and his family.

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. COMMEMORATIVE WORK TO HONOR JOHN**
4 **ADAMS AND HIS FAMILY.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Few families have contributed as profoundly
2 to the United States as the family that gave the Na-
3 tion its second president, John Adams; its sixth
4 president, John Quincy Adams; first ladies Abigail
5 Smith Adams and Louisa Catherine Johnson
6 Adams; and succeeding generations of statesmen,
7 diplomats, advocates, and authors.

8 (2) John Adams (1735–1826), a lawyer, a
9 statesman, and a patriot, was the author of the Con-
10 stitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
11 (the oldest written constitution still in force), the
12 leader of the Second Continental Congress, a driving
13 force for independence, a negotiator of the Treaty of
14 Paris (which brought the Revolutionary War to an
15 end), the first Vice President, the second President,
16 and an unwavering exponent of freedom of con-
17 science and the rule of law.

18 (3) Abigail Smith Adams (1744–1818) was one
19 of the most remarkable women of her time. Wife of
20 one president and mother of another, she was an
21 early advocate for the rights of women and served
22 the cause of liberty as a prolific writer, fierce pa-
23 triot, and staunch abolitionist.

24 (4) John Quincy Adams (1767–1848), was a
25 distinguished lawyer, legislator, and diplomat and a

1 master of 7 languages, who served as Senator, Min-
2 ister to the Netherlands under President George
3 Washington, Minister to Prussia under the first
4 President Adams, Minister to Great Britain under
5 President James Madison, chief negotiator of the
6 Treaty of Ghent (which ended the War of 1812),
7 Secretary of State under President James Monroe,
8 author of the Monroe Doctrine (which declared the
9 Western Hemisphere off limits to European imperial
10 expansion), sixth President, and the only former
11 President to be elected to the House of Representa-
12 tives, where he was known as “Old Man Eloquent”
13 and served with great distinction as a leader in the
14 fight against slavery and a champion of unpopular
15 causes.

16 (5) Louisa Catherine Johnson Adams (1775–
17 1852) was an educated, accomplished woman and
18 the only first lady born outside the United States.
19 Like Abigail Adams, she wrote eloquently on behalf
20 of the rights of women and in opposition to slavery.

21 (6) Charles Francis Adams (1807–1886), the
22 son of John Quincy and Louisa Adams, served 6
23 years in the Massachusetts legislature, was a stead-
24 fast abolitionist who received the Free Soil Party’s
25 vice-presidential nomination in 1848, was elected to

1 his father’s seat in the House of Representatives in
2 1856, and served as ambassador to Great Britain
3 during the Civil War, where his efforts were decisive
4 in preventing the British Government from recog-
5 nizing the independence of the Confederacy.

6 (7) Henry Adams (1838–1918), the son of
7 Charles Francis Adams, was an eminent writer,
8 scholar, historian, and public intellectual, and was
9 the author of many celebrated works, including “De-
10 mocracy”, “The Education of Henry Adams”, and
11 his 9-volume “History of the United States during
12 the Administrations of Jefferson and Madison”.

13 (8) Both individually and collectively, the mem-
14 bers of this illustrious family have enriched the Na-
15 tion through their profound civic consciousness,
16 abiding belief in the perfectibility of the Nation’s de-
17 mocracy, and commitment to service and sacrifice
18 for the common good.

19 (9) Although the Congress has authorized the
20 establishment of commemorative works on Federal
21 lands in the District of Columbia honoring such cele-
22 brated former Presidents as George Washington,
23 Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln, the Na-
24 tional Capital has no comparable memorial to the
25 Adams legacy.

1 (10) In recognition of the 200th anniversary of
2 the end of the presidency of John Adams, the time
3 has come to correct this oversight so that future
4 generations of Americans will know and understand
5 the preeminent historical and lasting significance to
6 the Nation of his contributions and those of his fam-
7 ily.

8 (b) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE
9 WORK.—The Adams Memorial Foundation may establish
10 a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of
11 Columbia and its environs to honor former President John
12 Adams and his wife Abigail, former President John Quin-
13 cy Adams and his wife Louisa, and their legacy of public
14 service.

15 (c) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMO-
16 RATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemora-
17 tive work shall be in accordance with the Commemorative
18 Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1001, et seq.).

19 (d) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS PROHIBITED.—Fed-
20 eral funds may not be used to pay any expense of the es-
21 tablishment of the commemorative work. The Adams Me-
22 morial Foundation shall be solely responsible for accept-
23 ance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses
24 of, the establishment of the commemorative work.

1 (e) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—If, upon payment
2 of all expenses of the establishment of the commemorative
3 work (including the maintenance and preservation amount
4 provided for in section 8(b) of the Commemorative Works
5 Act (40 U.S.C. 1001, et seq.)), or upon expiration of the
6 authority for the commemorative work under section 10(b)
7 of such Act, there remains a balance of funds received for
8 the establishment of the commemorative work, the Adams
9 Memorial Foundation shall transmit the amount of the
10 balance to the Secretary of the Treasury for deposit in
11 the account provided for in section 8(b)(1) of such Act.

12 (f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this Act, the
13 terms “commemorative work” and “the District of Colum-
14 bia and its environs” have the meanings given to such
15 terms in section 2 of the Commemorative Works Act (40
16 U.S.C. 1002).

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