

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2370

To provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2011

Mr. BARROW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities, 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 Corps of Engineers and other Federal
6 agencies are required to preserve and catalogue arti-
7 facts and other items of national historical signifi-

1 cance that are uncovered during the course of their
2 work.

3 (2) Uncatalogued artifacts within the care of
4 Federal agencies are stored in hundreds of reposi-
5 tories and museums across the Nation.

6 (3) In October 2009, the Corps of Engineers,
7 Center of Expertise for Curation and Management
8 of Archeological Collections, used \$3,500,000 in
9 temporary funds made available in the American Re-
10 covery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law
11 111–5) to begin the Veterans’ Curation Program to
12 employ and train Iraq and Afghanistan veterans in
13 archaeological processing.

14 (4) The Veterans’ Curation Program employs
15 veterans and members of the Armed Forces in the
16 sorting, cleaning, and cataloguing of artifacts man-
17 aged by the Corps of Engineers.

18 (5) Employees of the Veterans’ Curation Pro-
19 gram gain valuable work skills, including computer
20 database management, records management, photo-
21 graphic and scanning techniques, computer software
22 proficiency, vocabulary and writing skills, and inter-
23 personal communication skills, as well as knowledge
24 and training in archaeology and history.

1 (6) Experience in archaeological curation
2 gained through the Veterans' Curation Program is
3 valuable training and experience for the museum,
4 forensics, administrative, records management, and
5 other fields.

6 (7) Veterans' Curation Program participants
7 may assist the Corps of Engineers in developing a
8 more efficient and comprehensive collections man-
9 agement program and also may provide the work-
10 force to meet the records management needs at
11 other agencies and departments, including the De-
12 partment of Veterans Affairs.

13 **SEC. 2. TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT FOR VETERANS AND**
14 **MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES IN CURATION**
15 **AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION.**

16 (a) TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT.—The Secretary of
17 the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, shall
18 develop a Veterans' Curation Program to hire veterans
19 and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Secretary
20 in carrying out curation and historic preservation activi-
21 ties.

22 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There is
23 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

24 (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2012;

25 (2) \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 2013;

- 1 (3) \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 2014;
- 2 (4) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2015; and
- 3 (5) \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2016.

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