

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

BY REPRESENTATIVE CORMIER AND SENATOR CONNICK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish Fort Jackson in Plaquemines Parish as a national park.

WHEREAS, on August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the "Organic Act" creating the National Park Service, a federal bureau in the Department of the Interior responsible for maintaining national parks and monuments; and

WHEREAS, today, the National Park Service manages four hundred individual units which cover more than eighty-five million acres in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and US territories; and

WHEREAS, the National Park System also includes more than one hundred fifty related areas and numerous programs that assist in conserving the nation's natural and cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Fort Jackson is situated thirty-two nautical miles from the Gulf of Mexico and sixty-five miles in a southeasterly direction from New Orleans on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish and possesses nationally significant natural and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, construction of Fort Jackson was begun in 1822 upon the recommendation of its namesake General Andrew Jackson who recognized the need for additional fortifications to protect the mouth of the Mississippi River from attack; and

WHEREAS, the construction of star-shaped Fort Jackson was completed in 1832, and the fort was readied for service during the Mexican War in 1846; and

WHEREAS, in April of 1862, Fort Jackson was the site of an important battle of the Civil War, sustaining days of shelling as Confederate troops fought, to prevent Union forces from reaching New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Fort Jackson was donated to Plaquemines Parish in 1960 and since that time the parish and its people have invested in the conservation and renovation of the fort, which efforts have made it one of the principal historical attractions in the region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish Fort Jackson in Plaquemines Parish as a national park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE