

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 962

To authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish a Capitol Visitor Center under the East Plaza of the United States Capitol, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 1999

Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. WISE, and Mr. TRAFICANT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish a Capitol Visitor Center under the East Plaza of the United States Capitol, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Jacob Joseph Chest-
5 nut-John Michael Gibson United States Capitol Visitor
6 Center Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Architect of the Capitol is
3 authorized—

4 (1) to plan, construct, equip, administer, and
5 maintain a Capitol Visitor Center under the East
6 Plaza of the United States Capitol with associated
7 improvements to the Capitol to provide access there-
8 to; and

9 (2) to reconstruct the East Plaza of the United
10 States Capitol and its environs to enhance its
11 attractiveness, safety, and security.

12 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the activities au-
13 thORIZED under this section shall be primarily—

14 (1) to enhance security at the perimeter of the
15 Capitol Grounds; and

16 (2) to ensure the health and comfort of visitors
17 to the Capitol.

18 (c) GIFTS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of carrying
20 out this section, the Architect of the Capitol is au-
21 thORIZED to solicit, accept, receive, and hold gifts or
22 donations of money, services, and property and to
23 expend or otherwise utilize such gifts or donations.

24 (2) TREATMENT UNDER TAX LAWS.—Any gift
25 or donation made under paragraph (1) shall be con-
26 sidered a gift to the United States for the purposes

1 of income, estate, and gift tax laws of the United
2 States.

3 (d) PLANS AND DESIGNS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Architect of the Capitol
5 shall develop plans and designs for carrying out the
6 activities authorized under this section.

7 (2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing plans and
8 designs under paragraph (1), the Architect of the
9 Capitol shall—

10 (A) give due consideration to the Final De-
11 sign Report of the Architect, dated November
12 10, 1995, relating to construction of the Capitol
13 Visitor Center; and

14 (B) identify alternatives for construction of
15 the Capitol Visitor Center that will reduce the
16 costs of construction of the Center.

17 (3) TRANSMITTAL.—Not later than 120 days
18 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Architect
19 of the Capitol shall transmit a report containing the
20 plans and designs developed under paragraph (1) to
21 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
22 of the House of Representatives and to each of the
23 Committees specified under the heading of Public
24 Law 105–277 referred to in subsection (e).

1 (e) APPLICABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS TO APPRO-
 2 PRIATED FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated under the head-
 3 ing “ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL—CAPITOL VISITOR
 4 CENTER” under chapter 5 of title II of division B of Public
 5 Law 105–277 may be expended only in accordance with
 6 the requirements of this Act.

7 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF JACOB JOSEPH CHESTNUT-JOHN**
 8 **MICHAEL GIBSON UNITED STATES CAPITOL**
 9 **VISITOR CENTER.**

10 (a) DESIGNATION.—To honor the memory of Private
 11 First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut and Detective John
 12 Michael Gibson of the United States Capitol Police for the
 13 selfless acts of heroism they displayed on July 24, 1998,
 14 in sacrificing their lives in the line of duty so that others
 15 might live, the Capitol Visitor Center authorized to be con-
 16 structed under section 2 shall be known and designated
 17 as the “Jacob Joseph Chestnut-John Michael Gibson
 18 United States Capitol Visitor Center”.

19 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
 20 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
 21 States to the Capitol Visitor Center referred to in sub-
 22 section (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Jacob
 23 Joseph Chestnut-John Michael Gibson United States Cap-
 24 itol Visitor Center”.

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