

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 499

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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 capturing 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,
3 whose patriotism and bravery helped to secure American
4 independence and liberty.

Passed the House of Representatives November 15
(legislative day, November 14), 2002.

Attest:

Clerk.

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