

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5297

To designate the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum in Jacksonville, Florida, as the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

Mr. LAWSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CARSON, Mr. WALTZ, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. CRIST, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. MAST, Mr. BAIRD, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. DUNN, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. DONALDS, and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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 designate the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum in Jacksonville, Florida, as the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum, 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 “National POW/MIA
5 Memorial and Museum Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The POW/MIA Memorial and Museum is a
4 civic landmark and cultural institution being built as
5 of the date of the enactment of this Act in Jackson-
6 ville, Florida, to honor, connect, inspire, and educate
7 all people about the 142,000 members of the Armed
8 Forces who have been captured as prisoners of war
9 since World War II and the approximately 82,000
10 members of the Armed Forces who are currently
11 missing in action or unaccounted for since World
12 War II.

13 (2) The POW/MIA Memorial and Museum is a
14 unique and comprehensive project developed for the
15 exclusive purpose of honoring former prisoners of
16 war, those who were missing in action, those still
17 missing and unaccounted for, and for providing a
18 venue for families of these men and women to tell
19 their stories.

20 (3) The POW/MIA Memorial and Museum will
21 publicize the stories of such individuals, showcase
22 the history of the POW/MIA logo, the history of the
23 Naval Air Station Cecil Field as a master jet base,
24 and will serve as a reflective facility for all.

25 (4) The POW/MIA Memorial and Museum will
26 attract and educate a diverse group of people

1 through visitor-centered, interactive, participatory
2 exhibits, and will provide a place for educational pro-
3 grams, special events, and activities connecting all
4 generations.

5 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL POW/MIA MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM.**

6 (a) DESIGNATION.—The memorial and museum that
7 is, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, being con-
8 structed on an approximately 26-acre area on POW-MIA
9 Memorial Parkway, Jacksonville, Florida, shall be des-
10 ignated as the “National POW/MIA Memorial and Mu-
11 seum”.

12 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director
14 of the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum shall
15 submit to Congress a report including—

16 (1) a budget for the POW/MIA Memorial and
17 Museum for the five-year period beginning on the
18 date the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum is ex-
19 pected to open to the public;

20 (2) a description of the organizational structure
21 of the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum;

22 (3) a copy of any bylaws or rules implemented
23 by the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum; and

24 (4) a list of any organization or entity that has
25 accredited the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum.

1 (c) WITHDRAWAL OF DESIGNATION.—The designa-
2 tion under subsection (a) may be withdrawn if—

3 (1) the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum is
4 not operational in a satisfactory manner on the date
5 that is five years after the date of the enactment of
6 this Act; or

7 (2) the report under subsection (b) is submitted
8 to Congress after the date that is 90 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act.

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