

DESIGNATION OF THE CARL T. CURTIS NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE MIDWEST REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

JUNE 2, 2003.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 703]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to whom was referred the bill (S. 703) to designate the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the “Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building”, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

The purpose of this legislation is to designate the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the “Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building.”

BACKGROUND AND THE NEED FOR THE LEGISLATION

S. 703 designates a building under construction in Omaha, Nebraska as the “Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building.” The facility to be named will be occupied under a 20-year lease, the owner having given permission for the naming.

Carl T. Curtis served Nebraska and the Country in Congress for 40 years, 24 of those on the Senate side and 16 in the House—his combined service in Congress is longer than any other Nebraskan. He was born on March 15, 1905 in Minden, Nebraska. Curtis grew up in a Democratic family and was a registered Democrat until 1936 when he changed parties. As a young boy Curtis’s desire to serve the public became evident when he would practice his speech-

making skills on the barn animals. Curtis became known for his ardent conservative Republican ideals, but garnered great respect and admiration on both sides of the aisle and all across Nebraska.

Curtis demonstrated the heart of hard work and determination. While Curtis never attended law school, he obtained his law degree by “reading the law” on his own and passed the bar exam. Curtis also is the only elected official in state history to win office statewide while losing both Omaha and Lincoln. In Nebraska politics, he was known as a giant-killer, defeating two incumbent governors, one former governor, one governor-to-be, and two former House members. Curtis remained victorious in the Senate when in 1975 he waged a successful battle against Senator Jacob Javits, a Republican from New York, for the chairmanship of the Senate Republican Conference. As the new chairman of the Republican Conference he changed its role to be that of a research body providing Republican Senators with relevant information on emerging national issues. The function of the current Senate Republican Conference began under Curtis’ leadership.

In the 40 years that Curtis served in Congress, he sat on many Congressional Committees—Finance, Agriculture, Rules, and Space. While serving in the House, one of Curtis’s greatest accomplishments came from sponsoring a resolution which led to the creation of the Pick-Sloan Plan for the Missouri basin, which was the blueprint for flood control and irrigation along the Missouri River. Curtis also served as the Ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee and worked tirelessly to enact the energy tax bill and the Tax Reform Act of 1976. Within the Senate and House chambers he was highly regarded as an authority on taxation.

Among Curtis’s political highlights, he was selected by Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona to serve as his floor manager at the Republican National Convention in San Francisco in 1964. With Curtis’ help, Goldwater won the GOP presidential nomination that year.

In 1931, Curtis married Lois Wylie-Atwater who championed him throughout his political career. They adopted two children. In 1970 Lois died. Curtis then married Mildred Genier Baker. He is survived by his wife, son Carl Thomas Curtis, Jr., four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Curtis Sr. and Mildred were able to spend many healthy years together traveling throughout Nebraska and spending time with family and friends. Curtis’ journey ended on January 24, 2000, but his legacy lives on.

SUMMARY OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Designation

Section one designates the building under construction in Omaha, Nebraska for the National Park Service as the “Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building.”

Section 2. References

This section clarifies that any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building under construction in Omaha, Nebraska for the National

Park Service shall be deemed a reference to the “Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building.”

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

No hearings were held in conjunction with ordering reported S. 703.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

On May 21, 2003, the Full Committee met in open session and ordered reported S. 703, a bill designating the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the “Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building.” A motion by Mr. LaTourette to order S. 703 favorably reported to the House was agreed to by the Full Committee unanimously, by voice vote, with a quorum present. There were no recorded votes taken during Committee consideration of S. 703.

ROLLCALL VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives requires each committee report to include the total number of votes cast for and against on each rollcall vote on a motion to report and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, and the names of those members voting for and against. There were no rollcall votes taken in connection with ordering S. 703 reported. A motion by Mr. LaTourette to order S. 703 favorably reported to the House was agreed to by voice vote, a quorum being present.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee’s oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in this report.

COST OF LEGISLATION

Clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply where a cost estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the report and is included in the report. Such a cost estimate is included in this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, and 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee references the report of the Congressional Budget Office included below.

2. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee advises that the bill contains no measure that authorizes funding, so no statement of general performance and objectives for which any measure that authorizes funding is required.

3. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the

following cost estimate for S. 703 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, May 22, 2003.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed the following legislation, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on May 21, 2003:

- S. 703, an act to designate the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the “Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building”; and
- H.R. 1082, a bill to designate the federal building and United States courthouse located at 46 East Ohio Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Birch Bayh Federal Building and United States Courthouse.”

CBO estimates that their enactment would have no significant impact on the federal budget and would not affect direct spending or revenues. These pieces of legislation contain no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Matthew Pickford.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS HOLTZ-EAKIN,
Director.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause (3)(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, committee reports on a bill or joint resolution of a public character shall include a statement citing the specific powers granted to the Congress in the Constitution to enact the measure. The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure finds that Congress has the authority to enact this measure pursuant to its powers granted under article I, section 8 of the Constitution.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. (Public Law 104-4).

PREEMPTION CLARIFICATION

Section 423 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the report of any Committee on a bill or joint resolution to include a statement on the extent to which the bill or joint resolution is intended to preempt state, local or tribal law. The Committee states that S. 703 does not preempt any State, local, or Tribal law.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act are created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act. (Public Law 104–1).

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

S. 703 makes no changes in existing law.

