

AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION TO PLAN, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCT A VEHICLE MAINTENANCE BUILDING AT THE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE BRANCH OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION LOCATED IN SUITLAND, MARYLAND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

DECEMBER 3, 2009.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on House Administration, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 3224]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on House Administration, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 3224) to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design, and construct a vehicle maintenance building at the vehicle maintenance branch of the Smithsonian Institution located in Suitland, Maryland, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

H.R. 3224 authorizes \$4 million for the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design and construct a vehicle maintenance building in Suitland, Maryland.

The current location, at the National Zoological Park's General Services Building, is unsuitable based on space constraints and potential environmental hazards. Vehicle maintenance currently shares space with the Zoo's Animal Nutrition Commissary, exhibit production shop, horticulture storage, merchandise warehouse and professional office functions. It creates additional traffic in an area heavily used by pedestrians and vehicles of Zoo visitors. It is not convenient to vendors who supply parts for vehicle maintenance. The narrow service drive makes access to service bays awkward. It does not have proper facilities to accommodate use of alternative fuels.

The Suitland site allows for greater use of alternative fuels by many of the 780 Smithsonian vehicles and pieces of equipment, val-

ued at more than \$17 million, and better compliance with environmental regulations. Timing for the relocation is also propitious since the General Services Building is to undergo structural renovations beginning in fiscal 2012. The Smithsonian has determined that construction of a vehicle maintenance building at the Suitland site will be more cost-effective than leasing a facility.

The Committee finds that public access and safety at the National Zoo would be better served by removing vehicle maintenance from a facility principally designed to accommodate animal care and the needs of the Zoo's millions of visitors. The Committee supports the planning, design and construction of the new facility at the Suitland site, which does not have significant public access traffic.

SUMMARY OF H.R. 3224

Section 1. Authorizes the Board of Regents to plan, design and construct a vehicle maintenance building at the vehicle maintenance branch of the Smithsonian Institution located in Suitland, Maryland.

Section 2. Authorizes appropriations of \$4 million in fiscal 2010 for the project.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL AND CONSIDERATION

H.R. 3224 was introduced on July 15, 2009, by the three House members currently serving on the Smithsonian Board of Regents. Rep. Becerra sponsored the bill with Reps. Matsui and Sam Johnson of Texas as cosponsors. It was referred to the Committee on House Administration as the primary committee, with an additional referral to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

The Committee on House Administration considered H.R. 3224 at a meeting on November 4, 2009. The bill was ordered reported favorably, without amendment, by voice vote, a quorum being present.

MATTERS REQUIRED UNDER THE RULES OF THE HOUSE

COMMITTEE RECORD VOTES

Clause 3(b) of House rule XIII requires the results of each record vote on an amendment or motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and against, to be printed in the committee report. There were no recorded votes taken on H.R. 3224.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

In compliance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee states that the findings and recommendations of the Committee, based on oversight activities under clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, are incorporated in the descriptive portions of this report.

GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Committee states, with respect to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that the goal and ob-

jective of H.R. 3224 is to improve motor vehicle maintenance functions at the Smithsonian and ensure greater safety for the visiting public at the Zoo.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

In compliance with clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII, the Committee states that Article 1, section 8 of the U.S. Constitution grants Congress the authority to enact this measure.

FEDERAL MANDATES

Section 423 of the Congressional Budget Act requires a committee report on any public bill or joint resolution that includes a federal mandate to include specific information about such mandates. The Committee states that H.R. 3224 does not include federal mandates.

PREEMPTION CLARIFICATION

Section 423 of the Congressional Budget Act requires a committee report on any public bill or joint resolution to include a statement on the extent to which the measure is intended to preempt state or local law. The Committee states that H.R. 3224 is not intended to preempt any state or local law.

EARMARK IDENTIFICATION

In response to the requirements of clause 9 of rule XXI, the Committee reports that H.R. 3224 does not include any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of rule XXI.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

In compliance with clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee sets forth, with respect to the bill, the following estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, November 12, 2009.

Hon. ROBERT A. BRADY,
*Chairman, Committee on House Administration,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 3224, a bill to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design, and construct a vehicle maintenance building at the vehicle maintenance branch of the Smithsonian Institution located in Suitland, Maryland, and for other purposes.

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

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 3224—A bill to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design, and construct a vehicle maintenance building at the vehicle maintenance branch of the Smithsonian Institution located in Suitland, Maryland, and for other purposes

H.R. 3224 would authorize the appropriation of \$4 million for the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design, and construct a vehicle maintenance building at their facilities in Suitland, Maryland. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amount, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3224 would cost \$4 million over the 2010–2014 period, as shown in the following table. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts.

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2010–2014
Authorization Level	4	0	0	0	0	4
Estimated Outlays	1	2	1	0	0	4

H.R. 3224 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

On September 8, 2009, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 3224 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation on July 30, 2009. The two versions of the bill are identical, as are the two estimates.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Christina Hawley Anthony. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

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