

Committee on Natural Resources
Rob Bishop Chairman
Mark-Up Memorandum

April 24, 2017

To: All Natural Resources Committee Members

From: Majority Committee Staff – Terry Camp
Subcommittee on Federal Lands (x 6-7736)

Mark-Up: **H.R. 1500 (Rep. Joseph Crowley)**, To redesignate the small triangular property located in Washington, DC, and designated by the National Park Service as reservation 302 as ‘Robert Emmet Park’, and for other purposes.
April 26 & 27, 2017; 1324 Longworth HOB.

Summary of the Bill

H.R. 1500, introduced by Representative Joseph Crowley (D-NY-14), is a bipartisan bill that renames a small triangular property in Washington, D.C. as “Robert Emmet Park.”

Cosponsors

Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-PA-13), Rep. Michael Doyle (D-PA-14), Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY-16), Rep. Peter King (R-NY-2), Rep. James McGovern (D-MA-2), Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA-1), Rep. Kathleen Rice (D-NY-4), Rep. Thomas Rooney (R-FL-17), Rep. Christopher Smith (R-NJ-4).

Background

H.R. 1500 would rename National Park Service (NPS) Reservation 302, located at the corner of 24th Street and Massachusetts Avenue Northwest in the District of Columbia, as Robert Emmet Park. Robert Emmet is a prominent historical figure known for his role in the Irish Rebellion of 1803 and his classic “Speech from the Dock” that inspired future efforts to gain Irish Independence. The .08 acre triangular property currently features a nearly 100 year-old statue of Robert Emmet, one of only four in the world of the Irish hero. The bill also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to post informational signage regarding Robert Emmet and his statue in the park.

Representative Crowley introduced an identical bill, H.R. 4564, in the 114th Congress. On September 8, 2017, the Committee on Natural Resources voted to report the bill to the full House. The bill later passed in the House by voice vote on September 22, 2016.

Major Provisions

- Renames NPS Reservation 302, located in Washington, D.C., as Robert Emmet Park.
- Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to post signage on or near the park that provides information on Robert Emmet, including his contributions to the fight for Irish Independence and admiration for America, as well as the history of his statue.

Cost

In the 114th Congress, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that the cost of implementing H.R. 4564, a bill identical to H.R. 1500, would be insignificant, and all spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.¹

Administration Position

The administration position is unknown at this time.

Anticipated Amendments

None.

Effect on Current Law

H.R. 1500 does not affect current law.

¹ <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/51999>