

STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS, AND PUBLIC LANDS, CONCERNING H.R. 3525, A BILL TO ESTABLISH THE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

DECEMBER 7, 2021

Chairman Neguse, Ranking Member Fulcher, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on H.R. 3525, to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, and for other purposes.

The Department supports the provision in H.R. 3525 related to the Department of the Interior. The Department does not have a position on the other provisions of the bill and defers to other potentially affected agencies for views on H.R. 3525.

H.R. 3525 would establish a Commission to study the potential creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture. The bill directs the Commission to report recommendations for the establishment and maintenance of a museum, develop a fundraising plan to support the museum, and submit a legislative plan of action to establish and construct the museum.

Section 4 of the bill directs the Department of the Interior to provide administrative services, facilities, and funds necessary for the performance of the Commission's functions, from funds appropriated for these purposes. The funds are to be made available prior to any meetings of the Commission.

The Department of the Interior has performed this function for similar Commissions established to study potential national museums within the District of Columbia and is prepared to do so if H.R. 3525 is enacted and funding becomes available.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes our statement.