

FRED D. THOMPSON FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

MARCH 7, 2017.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. SHUSTER, from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 375]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 375) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

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PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION

H.R. 375 designates the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 375 designates the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

Fred D. Thompson was a lawyer, actor, and U.S. Senator. He was born in Sheffield, Alabama, in 1942 and attended public schools in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. He graduated from Memphis State University and received his law degree from Vanderbilt University in 1967. Early in his career, he served as an assistant U.S. attorney (1969–72) and later served as minority counsel with the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, better known as the “Watergate” Committee (1973–74). It was then-counsel Thompson who inquired about the existence of tapes made of Oval Office conversations during the Watergate hearings. These tapes eventually led to President Richard Nixon’s resignation.

During his career, he served as special counsel to a number of other Senate committees including the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations (1980–81) and the Senate Intelligence Committee (1982). Senator Thompson also served as a member of the Tennessee Appellate Court Nominating Commission (1985–87). After returning to the private practice of law in Nashville, he represented the chairperson of the state parole board who unearthed a cash-for-clemency scheme involving the governor of Tennessee. This case was eventually made into the film, *Marie*, and Senator Thompson was cast to play himself, launching a career in film and television.

In 1994, he ran for political office for the first time and was elected to fill the remaining two years of Vice President Al Gore’s Senate term from Tennessee. He was re-elected in 1996 to a full six-year term and served as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs until his retirement in 2002. In 2007, Senator Thompson announced his candidacy for the U.S. presidency. In 2015, Senator Thompson died from a recurrence of lymphoma.

HEARINGS

No hearings were held on H.R. 375.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND CONSIDERATION

On January 9, 2017, Representative Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced H.R. 375, a bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

On February 28, 2017, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session. The Committee ordered the bill reported favorably to the House by voice vote with a quorum present.

On September 22, 2016, Rep. Blackburn introduced H.R. 6135, which designated the Federal building and United States courthouse in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”. On November 29, 2016, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 6135 by voice vote.

COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires each committee report to include the total number of votes cast for and against on each record 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 recorded votes taken in connection with consideration of H.R. 375.

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.

NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY AND TAX EXPENDITURES

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.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

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 enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 375 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, March 2, 2017.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
*Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed H.R. 375, a bill to designate the federal building and United States Courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse,” as ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on February 28, 2017.

CBO estimates that enacting this legislation would have no significant effect on the federal budget and would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting the legislation would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

The bill 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.

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

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the performance goal and objective of this legislation is to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

ADVISORY OF EARMARKS

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee is required to include a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. No provision in the bill includes an earmark, limited tax benefit, or limited tariff benefit under clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of rule XXI.

DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds that no provision of H.R. 375 establishes or reauthorizes a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

DISCLOSURE OF DIRECTED RULE MAKINGS

Pursuant to section 3(i) of H. Res. 5, 115th Cong. (2017), the Committee finds that enacting H.R. 375 does not direct the completion of a specific rule making within the meaning of section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

FEDERAL MANDATE 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 H.R. 375 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 OF 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).

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF LEGISLATION

Section 1. Designation

Section 1 designates the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

Section 2. References

Section 2 deems any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in section 1 as a reference to the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

H.R. 375 makes no changes in existing law.

