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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to establish an oral history program to collect certain video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials and written materials with respect to individuals who were affected by the events at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. TORRES of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to establish an oral history program to collect certain video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials and written materials with respect to individuals who were affected by the events at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM AT AMERICAN**
2 **FOLKLIFE CENTER TO COLLECT VIDEO AND**
3 **AUDIO RECORDINGS OF HISTORIES OF THE**
4 **INSURRECTION ATTEMPT OF JANUARY 6TH**
5 **2021.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the American
7 Folklife Center at the Library of Congress shall establish
8 an oral history program to—

9 (1) collect video and audio recordings of per-
10 sonal histories and testimonials of individuals who
11 were present at or affected by the events at the
12 United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, including
13 but not limited to Members of Congress, congres-
14 sional staff, Capitol Police officers, other law en-
15 forcement personnel, journalists, and other wit-
16 nesses;

17 (2) create a collection of the recordings ob-
18 tained (including a catalog and index) which will be
19 available for public use through the National Digital
20 Library of the Library of Congress and such other
21 methods as the Director considers appropriate to the
22 extent feasible subject to available resources; and

23 (3) solicit, reproduce, and collect written mate-
24 rials (such as contemporaneous notes, text messages,
25 emails, social media posts, photographs, and other
26 documentation) relevant to the personal histories of

1 individuals who experienced or witnessed the events
2 of January 6, 2021, and to catalog such materials
3 in a manner the Director considers appropriate, con-
4 sistent with and complementary to the efforts de-
5 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2).

6 (b) **USE OF AND CONSULTATION WITH OTHER ENTI-**
7 **TIES.**—The Director may carry out the activities described
8 in paragraphs (1) and (3) of subsection (a) through agree-
9 ments and partnerships entered into with other govern-
10 ment and private entities, and may otherwise consult with
11 interested persons (within the limits of available re-
12 sources) and develop appropriate guidelines and arrange-
13 ments for soliciting, acquiring, and making available re-
14 cordings under the program under this Act.

15 (c) **TIMING.**—As soon as practicable after the date
16 of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall begin col-
17 lecting video and audio recordings under subsection (a)(1)
18 and shall prioritize the collection of testimonials from indi-
19 viduals whose accounts may be most at risk of being lost
20 to time or whose perspectives are essential to under-
21 standing the full scope of the January 6, 2021, events.

22 **SEC. 2. PRIVATE SUPPORT.**

23 (a) **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS.**—The Librarian of
24 Congress may solicit and accept donations of funds and

1 in-kind contributions to carry out the January 6th oral
2 history program under section 1.

3 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE GIFT AC-
4 COUNT.—There is established in the Treasury (among the
5 accounts of the Library of Congress) a gift account for
6 the January 6th oral history program under section 1.

7 (c) DEDICATION OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any
8 other provision of law—

9 (1) any funds donated to the Librarian of Con-
10 gress to carry out the January 6th oral history pro-
11 gram under section 1 shall be deposited entirely into
12 the gift account established under subsection (b);

13 (2) the funds contained in such account shall be
14 used solely to carry out the January 6th oral history
15 program under section 1; and

16 (3) the Librarian of Congress may not deposit
17 into such account any funds donated to the Librar-
18 ian which are not donated for the exclusive purpose
19 of carrying out the January 6th oral history pro-
20 gram under section 1.

21 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
23 this Act—

24 (1) \$500,000 for fiscal year 2027; and

- 1 (2) such sums as may be necessary for each
- 2 succeeding fiscal year.