



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Lewis and Clark Expedition is about President  
3 Thomas Jefferson's dream, the planning and preparation  
4 required for an early 19th-century military expedition, and  
5 then finally about the expedition itself; and

6 WHEREAS, Both geographically and historically, the  
7 territory now known as Illinois played a significant role in  
8 the Lewis and Clark story; and

9 WHEREAS, Beginning with their arrival near present-day  
10 Cairo in November of 1803, and ending with their official  
11 departure from Wood River on May 14, 1804, the Corps of  
12 Discovery spent more than six months in what is now the State  
13 of Illinois; and

14 WHEREAS, On November 11, 1803, the Captains of the Corps  
15 arrived with about 20 men at Fort Massac, near present day  
16 Metropolis, Illinois; and

17 WHEREAS, This western outpost of the United States Army  
18 provided logistical support and a central location for  
19 recruiting military and civilian volunteers; and

20 WHEREAS, The Corps arrived at Fort Kaskaskia, near  
21 present-day Ellis Grove, Illinois, on November 27th, where they  
22 socialized with local citizens and recruited additional  
23 volunteers; and

24 WHEREAS, On December 12, 1803, the Corps, now over 40 men,  
25 landed at Wood River and established Camp River Dubois; and

26 WHEREAS, Camp River Dubois would be the Corps' temporary  
27 home until their departure on May 14, 1804; and

1           WHEREAS, The Corps used their time at Camp River Dubois to  
2           drill, practice marksmanship, and acquire and stow the supplies  
3           needed for the long expedition; and

4           WHEREAS, Expanding the Lewis and Clark National Historic  
5           Trail to include additional sites associated with the  
6           preparation and return phase of the expedition would provide  
7           additional tourism to southern Illinois; and

8           WHEREAS, Legislation has been filed in the United States  
9           Congress to create the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail  
10          Extension Act of 2006; and

11          WHEREAS, This legislation amends the National Trails  
12          System Act to extend the Lewis and Clark National Historic  
13          Trail to include additional sites associated with the  
14          preparation and return phase of the expedition; and

15          WHEREAS, The extended route would include designated Lewis  
16          and Clark sites in Virginia, the District of Columbia,  
17          Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio,  
18          Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, and Illinois; and

19          WHEREAS, The legislation requires a suitability and  
20          feasibility study be completed to include the extended route  
21          within one year from the date funds are first made available  
22          for that purpose; and

23          WHEREAS, The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation  
24          supports recognition of a continuous trail across the country  
25          on the National Park Service's official trail map and the right  
26          to post the official trail signs; and

27          WHEREAS, The extension of the Lewis and Clark National  
28          Historic Trail from coast to coast would complete the story and  
29          expose a broader base of Americans to the educational and

1 cultural aspects of the expedition; and

2 WHEREAS, The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation  
3 believes that the status quo does not adequately recognize  
4 Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, where he dreamed his  
5 vision for America, Washington, D.C., where he shared his dream  
6 with Meriwether Lewis, or a variety of other significant places  
7 throughout the Eastern Legacy states; and

8 WHEREAS, The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation  
9 partners with the National Parks Service, the Bureau of Land  
10 Management, and the Forest Service in caring for the Lewis and  
11 Clark National Historic Trail and also supports scholarship,  
12 educational efforts, and research on the expedition;  
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
15 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
16 we support and urge the United States Congress to pass  
17 legislation calling for federal approval of extension of the  
18 Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to each member of the Illinois Congressional  
21 delegation, the Speaker of the United States House of  
22 Representatives, and the Majority Leader of the United States  
23 Senate.