Congressional Act to Honor Acadian Fete

Legislation providing for Congressional recognition of the Acadian bicentennial in Louisiana this year was reported favorably to the House Judiciary Committee by a subcommittee before which Congressman Edwin E. Willis of the Third Louisiana District appeared in behalf of his resolution for the Acadian commemorations.

Prompt approval by the full committee and by the House and Senate is expected.

The measure sponsored by Congressman Willis, member of the Judiciary Committee, provides that Congress "joins the people of Louisiana in commemorating the bicentennial anniversary of the migration of the Acadians from Nova Scotia to Louisiana and other areas and pays tribute to their spirit of courage, perseverance, and loyalty that has inspired the Nation."

Similar resolutions are sponsored by Congressman C. A. Thompson, of the Seventh Louisiana District, in the House and by Senators Allen Ellender and Russell B. Long in the Senate.

The resolution reads as follows:

"Whereas this year marks the two hundredth anniversary of the migration of the Acadians from Nova Scotia and their journey to find refuge and haven in Louisiana and other areas; and

"Whereas this contest, immortalized in Longfellow's poem Evangeline, parallels the landing of the Pilgrims in America and their quest for freedom, independence, and the pursuit of happiness; and

"Whereas the original Acadian settlers vigorously participated in the early development of Louisiana, and they and their descendants have contributed in full measure to the history, culture, character and way of life of the people of that great State; now, therefore, be it

"Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress of the United States join the people of Louisiana in commemorating the bicentennial anniversary of the migration of the Acadians from Nova Scotia to Louisiana and other areas and pays tribute to their spirit of courage, perseverance and loyalty that has inspired the Nation."

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