

## Union Calendar No. 364

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6353

[Report No. 117-468]

To authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

---

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2022

Ms. WILD (for herself and Ms. MACE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Additional sponsors: Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LEVIN of California, and Ms. STANSBURY

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

# **A BILL**

To authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “National Service Ani-  
5 mals Memorial Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7        Congress finds that—

8            (1) the National Service Animals Monument  
9        Corporation’s mission is to honor and recognize the  
10       broad scope of service animals, including working  
11       animals, through the creation of a memorial to edu-  
12       cate the public of the contributions by service ani-  
13       mals and the human-animal bond between service  
14       animals and their handlers, whether a person with  
15       a disability, a law enforcement officer, military per-  
16       sonnel, or other handler;

17            (2) formalized service animal work began in  
18       1929 when the Eustice School in New Jersey estab-  
19       lished the first guide-dog school;

20            (3) the purple poppy is the international symbol  
21       for the service and sacrifice of service animals;

22            (4) on February 24 of each year, National  
23       Service Animals Day is celebrated in the United  
24       States and throughout the world;

1           (5) service and working animals, such as dogs,  
2           horses, homing pigeons, donkeys, mules, dolphins,  
3           sea lions, and other animals, have worked alongside  
4           and supported humans throughout history and have  
5           created strong human-animal bonds, including—

6                   (A) during the Revolutionary War, horses  
7                   served in combat carrying soldiers, as well as  
8                   transporting the wounded and critical supplies;

9                   (B) during World War I and World War  
10                  II—

11                          (i) homing pigeons served as critical  
12                          messengers with tiny message capsules at-  
13                          tached to their legs that were used to send  
14                          communications that saved the lives of  
15                          countless soldiers, resulting in many pi-  
16                          geons becoming the target of enemy fire;  
17                          and

18                          (ii) donkeys and mules transported  
19                          food, supplies, and wounded  
20                          servicemembers; and

21                   (C) during the war in Afghanistan—

22                          (i) military working dogs safeguarded  
23                          the lives of thousands of servicemen by  
24                          clearing areas of improvised explosion de-  
25                          vices; and

1 (ii) in one example, Lucca, a German  
2 Shepherd-Belgian Malinois service dog,  
3 was employed by the United States Marine  
4 Corps for 6 years and trained to detect ex-  
5 plosives, deploying twice to Iraq and once  
6 to Afghanistan, supporting over 400 mis-  
7 sions without a single human fatality, and  
8 ultimately sustaining an injury and ampu-  
9 tation in 2012 due to an improvised explo-  
10 sive device while on patrol in Afghanistan;

11 (6) the bonds formed between military per-  
12 sonnel and law enforcement and their working dogs  
13 are so strong that they have risked their lives will-  
14 ingly to save the other;

15 (7) the tasks that service dogs perform for per-  
16 sons with disabilities are essential activities of daily  
17 living, such as guiding people with visual impair-  
18 ments, signaling sounds for those who are deaf, re-  
19 trieving items for people with mobility issues, alert-  
20 ing about impending cardiac episodes or seizures,  
21 turning on lights, providing stability for their owner  
22 while standing, and pressing elevator and accessi-  
23 bility buttons;

24 (8) in addition to service animals' help with  
25 functional tasks and missions, the human-animal

1 bond provides handlers the ability to live independ-  
2 ently, work confidently, and socialize freely;

3 (9) shelter dogs can be trained as service ani-  
4 mals;

5 (10) service animals, such as horses and dogs—

6 (A) support a variety of health and ther-  
7 apy services, including for people with autism,  
8 schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, and bipolar  
9 disorder; and

10 (B) specifically, can support  
11 servicemembers and veterans who experience  
12 traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic  
13 stress disorder;

14 (11) search and rescue dogs working with civil-  
15 ian or law enforcement handlers make United States  
16 communities and the Nation safer when they assist  
17 with the rescue of lost children, seniors, and other  
18 at-risk individuals, including in the event of natural  
19 or manmade disasters, for example—

20 (A) service animals have supported search  
21 and rescue missions after terrorist attacks, in-  
22 cluding September 11 and the Oklahoma City  
23 bombing; and

1 (B) service animals have supported local  
2 search and rescue missions involving lost chil-  
3 dren, such as—

4 (i) the service dog Mercy, a blood-  
5 hound with the Lee County, Florida, Sher-  
6 iff's department, who tracked a 12-year-old  
7 girl for more than a half mile through  
8 thick woods after she went missing during  
9 Tropical Storm Elsa in July 2021; and

10 (ii) the service dog Gandalf, trained  
11 by the South Carolina Search and Rescue  
12 Dog Association, who found a 12-year-old  
13 boy who had vanished from a campsite in  
14 the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Caro-  
15 lina in March 2019;

16 (12) the extraordinary abilities of service ani-  
17 mals, including smell, sensing, hearing, eyesight, and  
18 empathy, make them uniquely capable of helping hu-  
19 mans, including by assisting with the identification  
20 of illegal drugs, detecting an impending seizure,  
21 hearing a person buried beneath rubble, or seeing an  
22 expensive or vital tool dropped by a naval diver;

23 (13) service animals provide well-documented  
24 value to human health, safety, and security; and

1           (14) the National Service Animals Memorial  
2           will represent a place of pride, introspection, and  
3           education to pay tribute to the contributions and  
4           sacrifices made by all service animals and their han-  
5           dlers throughout history.

6 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE**  
7 **WORK.**

8           (a) IN GENERAL.—The National Service Animals  
9 Monument Corporation (referred to in this section as the  
10 “Corporation”) may establish a commemorative work on  
11 Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs  
12 to commemorate the heroic deeds and sacrifices of service  
13 animals and handlers of service animals in the United  
14 States.

15           (b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMO-  
16 RATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemora-  
17 tive work under this section shall be in accordance with  
18 chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly  
19 known as the “Commemorative Works Act”).

20           (c) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FEDERAL  
21 FUNDS.—

22           (1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be  
23           used to pay any expense of the establishment of the  
24           commemorative work under this section.



1           (2) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NATIONAL SERV-  
2           ICE ANIMALS MONUMENT CORPORATION.—The Cor-  
3           poration shall be solely responsible for the accept-  
4           ance of contributions for, and the payment of the ex-  
5           penses of, the establishment of the commemorative  
6           work under this section.

7           (d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—If, upon payment of all ex-  
9           penses for the establishment of the commemorative  
10          work under this section (including the maintenance  
11          and preservation amount required by section  
12          8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there  
13          remains a balance of funds received for the estab-  
14          lishment of the commemorative work, the Corpora-  
15          tion shall transmit the amount of the balance to the  
16          Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account  
17          provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United  
18          States Code.

19          (2) ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—If, upon  
20          expiration of the authority for the commemorative  
21          work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United  
22          States Code, there remains a balance of funds re-  
23          ceived for the establishment of the commemorative  
24          work under this section, the Corporation shall trans-  
25          mit the amount of the balance to a separate account

1 with the National Park Foundation for memorials,  
2 to be available to the Secretary of the Interior or the  
3 Administrator of General Services, as appropriate, in  
4 accordance with the process provided in section  
5 8906(b)(4) of title 40, United States Code, for ac-  
6 counts established under paragraph (2) or (3) of  
7 section 8906(b) of such title.



Union Calendar No. 364

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**H. R. 6353**

[Report No. 117-468]

---

---

## **A BILL**

To authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

---

---

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed