INTRODUCED

April 28, 2011

**S. 858**

Introduced by Senator Sheheen

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Read the first time April 28, 2011.

**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RESPECTFULLY REQUEST AND URGE CONGRESS TO ENACT SUCH LEGISLATION AS NECESSARY TO CREATE THE CAMDEN BATTLEFIELD AND HISTORIC CAMDEN REVOLUTIONARY WAR SITE AS A UNIT OR UNITS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM FOR THE ENJOYMENT, EDUCATION, AND INSPIRATION OF THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Whereas, the National Park System was authorized in 1978 to conduct a Special Resource Study to evaluate the national significance of the Camden Battlefield, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1961, and Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site; and

Whereas, subsequent to the study, the Department of the Interior recommended that Historic Camden become an affiliate area of the National Park Service rather than a unit, and a cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and Historic Camden was formed and remains active; and

Whereas, at the time, consultants felt that a number of hindrances obfuscated the archaeological and historical significance of the site, which have systematically been addressed and remedied; and

Whereas, the Historic Camden Foundation, governing body of Historic Camden, and the staff have long envisioned Historic Camden to be a component of a unique National Park that could be called Camden Military Park. The National Park System could purchase a major section of the two thousand‑acre battlefield designated a National Landmark in 1961; and the Historic Camden Foundation would cede ownership of the Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site to the National Park; and

Whereas, the Secretary of the Interior has been authorized to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Camden Battlefield and Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site, which is a National Park System affiliated area within the City of Camden, as a unit or units of the National Park System; and

Whereas, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study; and

Whereas, the officials of the State of South Carolina believe the August 16, 1780, Battle of Camden to be a seminal battle that helped shape the strategy, direction, and outcome of the American Revolution and that Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site represents an associated historic property that manifested a measurable national influence on the social, political, economic, and military actions and policies during the war; and

Whereas, the officials of the State of South Carolina support the establishment of the Camden Battlefield and Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site as a unit or units of the National Park System. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, respectfully request and urge Congress to enact such legislation as necessary to create the Camden Battlefield and Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site as a unit or units of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each member of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation.

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