



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
TASKING PROFILE

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To (Recipient): Jewell, Sally
From (Author): Schumer, Charles

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Subject Text: Asks the Secretary to initiate a theme study to examine the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans for possible national landmark designations.

Req. Surnames: FW;OCL;SOL

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 23, 2014

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The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell,

I'd like to first thank you for your strong leadership at the Department of Interior and your tireless efforts to preserve the vast history of our nation. One of the many important duties of the Secretary of the Interior is recommending the designation of our national historical landmarks. The power to designate national landmarks is the power to recognize not just important venues and locations, but moments in time where events, citizens and leaders helped to shape our country into what it is today.

During this process, it is essential that we take steps to recognize the diverse cultural heritage of all Americans. The Heritage Initiative within the National Parks Service's National Historic Landmarks program has made great progress in recognizing the rich history of African Americans, Latin Americans and Asian-Pacific Islanders through their recent and ongoing theme studies. Today, I ask that you conduct a theme study on the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) Americans. Previous themed studies have provided our country with a greater understanding of the affect these groups have had on our country, and I believe that there are many important stories of LGBT Americans that should be recognized as well.

The Department of the Interior plays an essential role in ensuring that history remembers all members of our community, and the LGBT civil rights movement has become a significant part of our country's rich and diverse story. As the centennial of the National Parks Service rapidly approaches, we should reflect on the fantastic work that has already been done, but also look to enrich the breadth and depth of the resources in the Service's care when appropriate. I believe a LGBT theme study would further the Parks Service's goal of honoring all Americans, and hope that you will do what is right to help shape the diverse cultural history of the United States.

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

2014 MAY 23 PM 5:12

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Thank you for your continued commitment to our country and I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles E. Schumer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Howarth, Robert <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Fw: Theme Study Invite

↑ message

Jeremy Bratt <jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov>

Fri, May 23, 2014 at 3:05 PM

To: robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov

Fyi...letter to SJ for entry and response. Thanks!

From: Hartunian, Joe (Judiciary-Dem) [mailto:Joe_Hartunian@judiciary-dem.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, May 23, 2014 12:06 PM

To: Bratt, Jeremy <jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: RE: Theme Study Invite

Hey Jeremy,

Attached is a letter from Senator Schumer to Secretary Jewell requesting an LGBT theme study, as we discussed.

Thanks for your help!

Joe

From: Bratt, Jeremy [mailto:jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2014 2:17 PM

To: Hartunian, Joe (Judiciary-Dem)

Subject: Theme Study Invite

Hi Joe,

Thanks for talking with me a few minutes ago.

As I mentioned, we'd like to invite Senator Schumer to participate in a press conference with Secretary Jewell on Friday, May 30 in New York City at the Stonewall Inn to announce that the National Park Service is beginning work on an LGBT Theme Study.

Specifically, we will be announcing: 1) the launch of the LGBT Theme Study; 2) a private donor, Tim Gill, has agreed to pay all of the costs for the study; and, 3) the first meeting of the scholars involved in the theme study will take place on June 10, 2014 at the South Interior Building in Washington, DC.

We'd love to have your boss participate if his schedule permits. At this point, Secretary Jewell, Mr. Gill and Senator Schumer would all have a speaking role.

We may add 1-2 additional speakers as well (we have reached out to Rep. Nadler and, I believe, the city council member for that area), and although we have been talking with some other Members who are leaders on GLBT issues (Sen. Baldwin, Rep. Polis), we have not had any commitment from them as of yet.

The press conference will take place in front of the Stonewall Inn. We are working to also organize a brief tour of the inside of the bar for Secretary Jewell, Mr. Gill, and any other special guests that would take place immediately prior to the press conference. It would be ideal if Senator Schumer could arrive by 10:30 to participate in a small clutch/and the tour; the press conference will start at 11:00 am and we expect it to last no more than 30 minutes.

Background

A theme study is a research document that helps identify potential new National Historic Landmarks and properties that may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as well as potential new units of the National Park System. All such identified properties must be evaluated and determined to be of the appropriate level of significance. The theme study provides the necessary national historic context so that national significance may be evaluated for properties that are related to a specific area of American history. A theme study provides a comparative analysis of properties associated with a specific area such as women's history, the fur trade, modern architecture, or Civil Rights.

Theme studies are used to evaluate historic properties for national significance because they provide an historic context from which the most appropriate properties within that theme are identified. They may provide important background information for other research efforts. They can be used to educate the public about the nation's heritage through interpretive and educational programs.

If you think your boss might be interested in participating, or if I can get you any additional information, please let me know.

Thanks,

Jeremy

—

Jeremy Bratt

Deputy Director

Congressional and Legislative Affairs

Department of the Interior

5/23/2014

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - Fw: Theme Study Invite

• • Jeremy_Bratt@ios.doi.gov

202-208-7696 (desk)

 **Interior LGBT Theme Study 5.23.14.pdf**
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