

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-06

A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE DELTA QUEEN

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is the last survivor of a once thriving fleet of steam sternwheelers plying the inland waters of the United States carrying overnight passengers on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and

WHEREAS, the Delta Queen is of great historic import with a rich history on the inland waterways but she will be forced out of commission unless Congress acts to allow her to continue to operate, and

WHEREAS, she is a U.S. flagged vessel with an all American crew which, during World War II, was commissioned by the United States Navy to serve as a troop transport ferry in the San Francisco Bay, and

WHEREAS, she is a registered historic treasure of the Department of the Interior, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is a National Historic Landmark and is also a member of the National Maritime Hall of Fame, and

WHEREAS, on nine (9) consecutive occasions since 1968 the Delta Queen has received an operating exemption from Congress acknowledging her wooden superstructure, and

WHEREAS, a Resolution in the United States House of Representatives, H.R. 3852, has been introduced which would again extend the fire-retardant materials construction exemption from November 2008 to 2018, thus allowing the Delta Queen to continue to operate on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and

WHEREAS, this resolution has been referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure but to date the Committee Chair has failed to call the Resolution to vote to extend the exemption and,

WHEREAS, if action is not taken before November 1, 2008, the exemption will expire and the 92-year old Delta Queen will be forced to be taken out of commission, and

WHEREAS, the citizens and residents of Newburgh, Indiana, committed as they are to historic preservation, garner great enjoyment and a connection to America's history from their interaction with the Delta Queen when she traverses the Ohio River at Newburgh and its environs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City Of Rockport, Indiana:

The Committee on Transportation and of the United States House of Representatives should be allowed to vote on the proposed resolution HR 3852, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City Of Rockport, Indiana:
The Committee should recommend passage of HR 3852 to the United States House of Representatives, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City Of Rockport, Indiana:
That the United States House of Representatives should adopt HR 3852, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City Of Rockport, Indiana:
This Resolution shall be forwarded to the United States Representatives James Oberstar, 2365 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 and at 231 Federal Building, Duluth, MN 55802; to United States Representative Brad Ellsworth, 513 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-1408 and at 101 Martin Luther King Blvd, Evansville, IN 47708; and to the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana at 340 West Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202 and P.O. Box 20215, Evansville, IN 47708.

ADOPTED this 11 th Day of Aug, in the year 2007 and of the independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred Thirty Second.

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF ROCKPORT

President


Member

Member

Member

Member

ATTEST:


Harold Goffinett, Clerk-Treasurer