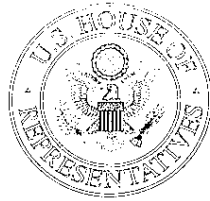


COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY,
HUD, USPS, JUDICIARY AND D.C.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, STATE, JUSTICE,
COMMERCE AND NASA

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP



JOHN CULBERSON
7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

March 16, 2006

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1728 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4307
202.225.2571
FAX 202.225.4381

DISTRICT OFFICE:
10000 MEMORIAL DRIVE, SUITE 620
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024-3490
713.682.8828
FAX: 713.680.8070

INTERNET:
WWW.CULBERSON.HOUSE.GOV

The Honorable Charles H. Taylor
Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
B-308 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Taylor,

I am writing to request your support for the Texas Water Resources Institute, the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program, and the *H.L. Hunley* Submarine Project in the FY2007 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

I request \$500,000 for the Texas Water Resources Institute to conduct a study on land management for flood control in northern Harris County. Harris County, where Houston is located, is experiencing significant development on the west side of the county. The Harris County Flood Control District has identified rural land management as a viable strategy to manage storm flow entering the suburban and urban parts of the county. This study will determine how the management of natural vegetation and agricultural lands can complement structural measures to detain storm water and reduce flooding in northern Harris County.

I strongly support President Bush's \$4 million budget request for the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program. This request is an increase of \$1 million over what Congress appropriated for FY2006. The program provides funds to purchase land from willing sellers on sights of major engagements during the Civil War. I have personally visited some of these historic sites and I am committed to preserving them for future generations.

I also strongly support Congressman Henry Brown's \$1 million request for the *H.L. Hunley* submarine. I have visited the *Hunley* and I believe that this request is both necessary and appropriate. The *Hunley* was the first submarine to successfully sink a ship in military action and the historic value of this rare naval artifact is immeasurable not only to Charleston, but to our nation. The *Hunley's* historical and cultural importance should not be diminished.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Culberson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John Culberson
Member of Congress