To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the
Hon. Charles H. Wiggins
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wiggins:
The United States of America in Congress Assembled, that in order
Pursuant to your recent request, there is enclosed a draft of a
bill "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the
Richard M. Nixon National Historic Site in the State of California,
and for other purposes."

The bill has been drafted as a service to you. Since it has not
been cleared by the Bureau of the Budget you will appreciate, I am
sure, that we can make no commitment as to the Department's position
on the bill at this time.

Sincerely yours,

David S. Ferri
Acting Legislative Counsel

Enclosure

cc:
BOB (2) detached
CL
FW
SOL-DL - Mr. Ciano
Regional Director, Western
C
DAL
NPS Copy

RETURN TO: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

JMLambert 1/9/69
pg. 1 of bill rewritten:FJCiano:ah 2/3/69
A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Richard M. Nixon National Historic Site in the State of California, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to preserve in public ownership the birthplace of Richard M. Nixon as a national historic site, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is hereby authorized to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or by exchange, the property or any interest therein in the municipality of Yorba Linda, county of Orange, in the State of California, identified as number 18061 Yorba Linda Boulevard, including improvements thereon, together with such adjacent lands and interest therein as the Secretary may deem necessary for the establishment and administration of the property as a national historic site: Provided, That any property within such area owned by the State of California or a political subdivision thereof, may be acquired only by donation. The Secretary is further authorized to acquire by any of the above means personal property used and to be used in connection with the national historic site.

SEC. 2. The property acquired pursuant to the first section of this Act shall be known as the Richard M. Nixon National Historic Site, and it shall be administered by the Secretary.

SEC. 3. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.
Memorandum

To: Legislative Counsel
    Through: Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, 
    Parks, and Marine Resources

From: [Handwritten: Assistant Director, National Park Service]

Subject: [Handwritten: Meeting with Rep. Charles E. Wiggins (R-California),
            on Nixon Birthplace]

[Handwritten: Memo re: Utley and [illegible] of the National Park Service met with
Representative Wiggins on September 12 at his request to discuss
H.R. 7350, his bill to establish the Nixon Birthplace National Historic Site in Yorba Linda, California. The property is owned
by a local school district.

Of chief concern to the Congress was the state constitutional
impediment to donation of the birthplace home. The precedents
for donations were pointed out to him, including the recent
Senate action which mandated the LBJ proposal to require acquisi-
tion by donation only.

Mr. Utley also outlined the Service procedures regarding determina-
tion of historical significance and the need for a suitability-
feasibility study on which to base a Departmental report on the
bill. The Congress was advised that a recommendation on
designating the birthplace as a National Historic Landmark would
be submitted to the Advisory Board for its consideration in
October. Following the Board's advice to the Secretary, the
Congress will be notified and a ceremony will be worked out
with his office for presentation of a Landmark plaque, probably
in December or January.

Representative Wiggins offered to contact the White House to
determine (1) whether the President wished studies on suitability
and feasibility to proceed at this time, and (2) if so, what the
President's wishes are on the donation vs. Federal purchase question.
He will write the Secretary when he hears from the White House.

Thomas F. Flynn, Jr.

[Handwritten: RETURN TO:
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE]