

Office of the Lieutenant Governor
State of Louisiana



BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

P. O. Box 44243
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-4243
(225) 342-7009

April 3, 2017

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. President:

In your recent speech in Nashville, Tennessee you mentioned the great debt of gratitude the United States owes to Andrew Jackson, the native son of Tennessee and seventh President of the United States. General Jackson is also known as "The Hero of New Orleans" from his actions in defense of the City of New Orleans and the repulsion of the British in the Battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812. Your commitment to honoring and protecting United States Veterans has been abundantly demonstrated both in your candidacy and now as President of the United States. The State of Louisiana shares your commitment to our veterans, and in agreement with multiple acts of Congress, we consider the sacrifices and lives of the service members of all American Wars to be worthy of honor and protection. Mr. President, 73 percent of Louisiana voters favor keeping all of our important monuments in place.

Recently, under the direction of New Orleans Mayor Mitchell J. Landrieu, a Request for Proposals was issued to determine the cost of removing the monument of General Jackson that stands in the center of Jackson Square in the French Quarter of New Orleans. Ultimately, the Mayor chose not to act against the monument of General Jackson at this time but has made it clear that Jackson will be next to come down. The Mayor and Council of the City of New Orleans are seeking the removal of certain monuments on the National Register of Historic Places, including those of General Robert E. Lee and General P.G.T. Beauregard. These Generals are both graduates of the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), they both served with distinction in the U.S. Army, and they both served as Generals in the Confederate States of America. By multiple acts of Congress after the Civil War, all Confederate Veterans were given recognition commiserate with Union Veterans, including government funded pensions at an equal rate with Union Veterans, and burial in Arlington National Cemetery. Additionally, the City of New Orleans is seeking the removal of Jefferson Davis' statue.

I implore you to utilize the powers bestowed upon the Office of the President in the Antiquities Act, passed by Congress in 1906, which granted you the authority to declare by public proclamation, historic land marks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic

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significance as national monuments. These monuments serve as a visible reminder of the struggle our nation faced as families fought families, generals served under another flag, and a union was fragmented for a brief time. Your inclusion of them as national monuments would forever enshrine these structures as representations of that pivotal time in our nation's history.

Mr. President, as you look out of the window of the White House and gaze upon the statue of General Jackson, I implore you to provide any executive assistance you can lend the people of Louisiana as we continue to work to preserve and protect our and the nation's unique heritage.

Most respectfully,



Billy Nungesser
Lieutenant Governor

WHN/lis

c: Louisiana Congressional Delegation