

House Resolution 1823

By: Representatives Murphy of the 120th, Harbin of the 118th, Frazier of the 123rd, Howard of the 121st, Sims of the 119th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Department of Energy, the United States Congress, and the current
2 administration to continue the development of Yucca Mountain as the site for permanent
3 storage of defense nuclear waste and commercial spent nuclear fuel and requesting that the
4 funding of \$150 million for the review of the Yucca Mountain license application and future
5 activities of the nuclear waste disposal program remain intact; and for other purposes.

6 WHEREAS, the Savannah River Site (SRS) is a critical part of the United States
7 government's national defense infrastructure, having served for more than half a century as
8 a production facility for materials utilized in the country's nuclear weapons program; and

9 WHEREAS, the citizens who reside in a two-state region surrounding the SRS have, over
10 the years, expressed strong support and appreciation for the mission and contributions to
11 national security made by the SRS and for the electric power produced by commercial
12 nuclear plants in Georgia and South Carolina; and

13 WHEREAS, the federal government has pledged for years that commercial spent nuclear fuel
14 and high-level defense nuclear waste such as that generated at the SRS would be permanently
15 stored in a specially designed and constructed underground repository at Yucca Mountain
16 in Nevada; and

17 WHEREAS, the citizens of the SRS region have fully and confidently relied on federal
18 assurances that a permanent repository would be available for commercial spent nuclear fuel
19 and high-level defense nuclear waste; and

20 WHEREAS, the federal government has announced that it is abandoning plans to complete
21 the planned permanent repository at Yucca Mountain in the Nevada desert and that an
22 acceptable substitute option does not currently exist; and

23 WHEREAS, the federal government's decision to abandon Yucca Mountain means that the
24 SRS may become a permanent repository for defense nuclear waste in violation of
25 long-standing federal assurances to the contrary; and

26 WHEREAS, permanent storage of defense nuclear waste in the Savannah River Site region
27 is not compatible with the best interests of the area's citizens, economic future, or image as
28 a great place to live and work.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body urge the United States Department of Energy, the United States
31 Congress, and the current administration to continue the development of Yucca Mountain
32 as the site for permanent storage of defense nuclear waste and commercial spent nuclear fuel
33 and request that the funding of \$150 million for the review of the Yucca Mountain license
34 application and future activities of the nuclear waste disposal program remain intact.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to United States Department of
37 Energy Secretary Steven Chu, each member of the Georgia congressional delegation, and
38 President Barack Obama.