

# Creating the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park



“All the other pleasures of life seem to wear out, but the pleasure of helping others in distress never does.”  
JULIUS ROSENWALD



## BREAKING NEWS:

### CONGRESS PASSES ROSENWALD LEGISLATION

At the end of a very dark and uncertain year, the Rosenwald Park Campaign was given a key victory by the last-minute passage of The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2019. The legislation is now on its way to the White House for the President to sign.

The House (Bill [HR 3250](#)) was introduced by Representative Danny Davis (D-IL-7). A Subcommittee hearing was held on October 29, 2019, and a markup of the Bill was passed by unanimous consent on March 11, 2020, in the House Natural Resources Committee. Forty-three Representatives cosponsored HR 3250.

The Senate Bill ([S. 1863](#)) was introduced by Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and had a Subcommittee hearing on March 4, 2020. A markup of that Bill was not prepared. Nine Senators cosponsored the Bill. Both Bills had bipartisan support.

Shortly thereafter, the COVID pandemic spread through the nation. Spring became summer, followed by fall. The Campaign was advised that passage of the legislation was most unlikely in this session of Congress.

But last week Congressional staff in both Houses of Congress found a path forward for the legislation. The House passed the markup of HR 3250 on December 17, 2020, by a vote of 387 to five, a resounding victory. And on December 21, the Senate passed HR 3250 by unanimous consent.

The late Congressman John Lewis, who attended a Rosenwald School in Alabama, was one of the eight lead sponsors of HR 3250. It is most fitting that his name will be on the final law. He always believed that hope is a powerful force.

The legislation directs the National Park Service to conduct a special resource study of the sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, especially the Rosenwald Schools. This is the first key step in ultimately creating the National Historical Park.

There are so many people to thank for this important victory. They include the Congressional staffers, who against all odds, shepherded HR 3250 through to passage. Also included are the Members of Congress who sponsored and co-sponsored the two Bills and their staffs. Both the National Parks Conservation Association and the National Trust for Historic Preservation have been steadfast supporters of the Campaign from day one and worked vigorously to pass the legislation. And thanks to the 40 non-profit organizations that officially supported the legislation. Last but not least are all the Campaign supporters who wrote their Members of Congress asking them to cosponsor the Bills and our committed donors.

The Campaign is so grateful. Working together we will create the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park.

Dorothy Canter  
President

**The Campaign wishes you and your loved ones a happy and safe holiday and a healthy and much better year in 2021.**

**D O N A T E**

**We need your support to continue.**

For questions and suggestions, please write to [info@rosenwaldpark.org](mailto:info@rosenwaldpark.org).