104TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R.400

To provide for the exchange of lands within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 1995 Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To provide for the exchange of lands within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "Anaktuvuk Pass Land

5 Exchange and Wilderness Redesignation Act of 1995".

6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) The Alaska National Interest Lands Con9 servation Act (94 Stat. 2371), enacted on December
10 2, 1980, established Gates of the Arctic National

Park and Preserve and Gates of the Arctic Wilder ness. The village of Anaktuvuk Pass, located in the
 highlands of the central Brooks Range, is virtually
 surrounded by these national park and wilderness
 lands and is the only Native village located within
 the boundary of a National Park System unit in
 Alaska.

8 (2) Unlike most other Alaskan Native commu-9 nities, the village of Anaktuvuk Pass is not located on a major river, lake, or coastline that can be used 10 11 as a means of access. The residents of Anaktuvuk Pass have relied increasingly on snow machines in 12 13 winter and all-terrain vehicles in summer as their primary means of access to pursue caribou and 14 15 other subsistence resources.

16 (3) In a 1983 land exchange agreement, linear 17 easements were reserved by the Inupiat Eskimo peo-18 ple for use of all-terrain vehicles across certain na-19 tional park lands, mostly along stream and river 20 banks. These linear easements proved unsatisfactory, because they provided inadequate access to subsist-21 22 ence resources while causing excessive environmental impact from concentrated use. 23

24 (4) The National Park Service and the25 Nunamiut Corporation initiated discussions in 1985

to address concerns over the use of all-terrain vehi-1 2 cles on park and wilderness land. These discussions 3 resulted in an agreement, originally executed in 4 1992 and thereafter amended in 1993 and 1994, among the National Park Service, Nunamiut Cor-5 6 poration, the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, and Arctic 7 Slope Regional Corporation. Full effectuation of this 8 agreement, as amended, by its terms requires ratifi-9 cation by the Congress.

10 SEC. 3. RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT.

11 (a) RATIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The terms, conditions, pro-12 13 cedures, covenants, reservations and other provisions 14 set forth in the document entitled "Donation, Ex-15 change of Lands and Interests in Lands and Wilder-16 ness Redesignation Agreement Among Arctic Slope 17 Regional Corporation, Nunamiut Corporation, City 18 of Anaktuvuk Pass and the United States of Amer-19 ica" (hereinafter referred to in this Act as "the Agreement"), executed by the parties on December 20 17, 1992, as amended, are hereby incorporated in 21 22 this Act, are ratified and confirmed, and set forth the obligations and commitments of the United 23 Slope 24 States. Arctic Regional Corporation,

Nunamiut Corporation and the City of Anaktuvuk
 Pass, as a matter of Federal law.

3 (2) LAND ACQUISITION.—Lands acquired by
4 the United States pursuant to the Agreement shall
5 be administered by the Secretary of the Interior
6 (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") as part
7 of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve,
8 subject to the laws and regulations applicable there9 to.

(b) MAPS.—The maps set forth as Exhibits C1, C2, 10 and D through I to the Agreement depict the lands subject 11 to the conveyances, retention of surface access rights, ac-12 cess easements and all-terrain vehicle easements. These 13 lands are depicted in greater detail on a map entitled 14 "Land Exchange Actions, Proposed Anaktuvuk Pass Land 15 Exchange and Wilderness Redesignation, Gates of the 16 Arctic National Park and Preserve'', Map No. 185/80,039, 17 dated April 1994, and on file at the Alaska Regional Of-18 fice of the National Park Service and the offices of Gates 19 of the Arctic National Park and Preserve in Fairbanks, 20 21 Alaska. Written legal descriptions of these lands shall be 22 prepared and made available in the above offices. In case 23 of any discrepancies, Map No. 185/80,039 shall be controlling. 24

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1 SEC. 4. NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM WILDERNESS.

2 (a) GATES OF THE ARCTIC WILDERNESS.—

3 (1) REDESIGNATION.—Section 701(2) of the 4 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act 5 (94 Stat. 2371, 2417) establishing the Gates of the 6 Arctic Wilderness is hereby amended with the addi-7 tion of approximately 56,825 acres as wilderness 8 and the rescission of approximately 73,993 acres as wilderness, thus revising the Gates of the Arctic Wil-9 10 derness to approximately 7,034,832 acres.

11 (2) MAP.—The lands redesignated by para-12 graph (1) are depicted on a map entitled "Wilder-13 ness Actions, Proposed Anaktuvuk Pass Land Ex-14 change and Wilderness Redesignation, Gates of the 15 Arctic National Park and Preserve", Map No. 185/ 80,040, dated April 1994, and on file at the Alaska 16 Regional Office of the National Park Service and the 17 18 office of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Pre-19 serve in Fairbanks, Alaska.

20 (b) NOATAK NATIONAL PRESERVE.—Section
21 201(8)(a) of the Alaska National Interest Land Conserva22 tion Act (94 Stat. 2380) is amended by—

(1) striking "approximately six million four
hundred and sixty thousand acres" and inserting in
lieu thereof "approximately 6,477,168 acres"; and

(2) inserting "and the map entitled 'Noatak
 National Preserve and Noatak Wilderness Addition'
 dated September 1994" after "July 1980".

4 (c) NOATAK WILDERNESS.—Section 701(7) of the
5 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (94
6 Stat. 2417) is amended by striking "approximately five
7 million eight hundred thousand acres" and inserting in
8 lieu thereof "approximately 5,817,168 acres".

9 SEC. 5. CONFORMANCE WITH OTHER LAW.

(a) Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.—All 10 of the lands, or interests therein, conveyed to and received 11 by Arctic Slope Regional Corporation or Nunamiut Cor-12 poration pursuant to the Agreement shall be deemed con-13 veyed and received pursuant to exchanges under section 14 15 22(f) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1601, 1621(f)). All of the lands or 16 interests in lands conveyed pursuant to the Agreement 17 shall be conveyed subject to valid existing rights. 18

19 (b) ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS CONSERVA-20 TION ACT.—Except to the extent specifically set forth in 21 this Act or the Agreement, nothing in this Act or in the 22 Agreement shall be construed to enlarge or diminish the 23 rights, privileges, or obligations of any person, including 24 specifically the preference for subsistence uses and access 25 to subsistence resources provided under the Alaska Na-

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- 1 tional Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3101
- 2 et seq.).