

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1718

To amend the Weir Farm National Historic Site Establishment Act of 1990 to authorize the acquisition of additional acreage for the historic site to permit the development of visitor and administrative facilities and to authorize the appropriation of additional amounts for the acquisition of real and personal property.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 5, 1998

Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. DODD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Resources

A BILL

To amend the Weir Farm National Historic Site Establishment Act of 1990 to authorize the acquisition of additional acreage for the historic site to permit the development of visitor and administrative facilities and to authorize the appropriation of additional amounts for the acquisition of real and personal property.

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. WEIR FARM NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, CON-**
4 **NECTICUT.**

5 (a) ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR VISITOR AND ADMIN-
6 ISTRATIVE FACILITIES.—Section 4 of the Weir Farm Na-

1 tional Historic Site Establishment Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C.
2 461 note; Public Law 101–485; 104 Stat. 1171) is amend-
3 ed by adding at the end the following:

4 “(d) ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR VISITOR AND AD-
5 MINISTRATIVE FACILITIES; LIMITATIONS.—

6 “(1) ACQUISITION.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To preserve and
8 maintain the historic setting and character of
9 the historic site, the Secretary may acquire not
10 more than 15 additional acres for the develop-
11 ment of visitor and administrative facilities for
12 the historic site.

13 “(B) PROXIMITY.—The property acquired
14 under this subsection shall be contiguous to or
15 in close proximity to the property described in
16 subsection (b).

17 “(C) MANAGEMENT.—The acquired prop-
18 erty shall be included within the boundary of
19 the historic site and shall be managed and
20 maintained as part of the historic site.

21 “(2) DEVELOPMENT.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
23 keep development of the property acquired
24 under paragraph (1) to a minimum so that the
25 character of the acquired property will be simi-

1 lar to the natural and undeveloped landscape of
2 the property described in subsection (b).

3 “(B) PARKING AREA.—Any parking area
4 for the resulting visitor and administrative fa-
5 cility shall not exceed 30 spaces.

6 “(C) SALES.—Items sold in the visitor fa-
7 cilities—

8 “(i) shall be limited to educational
9 and interpretive materials related to the
10 purpose of the historic site; and

11 “(ii) shall not include food.

12 “(3) AGREEMENTS.—Prior to and as a pre-
13 requisite to any development of visitor and adminis-
14 trative facilities on the property acquired under
15 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall enter into 1 or
16 more agreements with the appropriate zoning au-
17 thority of the town of Ridgefield, Connecticut, and
18 the town of Wilton, Connecticut, for the purposes
19 of—

20 “(A) developing the parking, visitor, and
21 administrative facilities for the historic site; and

22 “(B) managing bus traffic to the historic
23 site and limiting parking for large tour buses to
24 an offsite location.”.

1 (b) INCREASE IN MAXIMUM ACQUISITION AUTHOR-
2 ITY.—Section 7 of the Weir Farm National Historic Site
3 Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 461 note; Public Law 101–485;
4 104 Stat. 1173) is amended by striking “\$1,500,000” and
5 inserting “\$4,000,000”.

○