

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5096

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the St. Croix National Heritage Area in St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 11, 2002

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the St. Croix National Heritage Area in St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, 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 “St. Croix National  
5       Heritage Area Study Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. STUDY.**

7       The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with  
8       appropriate State historic preservation officers, States his-

1 torical societies, and other appropriate organizations, shall  
2 conduct a study regarding the suitability and feasibility  
3 of designating the island of St. Croix as the St. Croix Na-  
4 tional Heritage Area. The study shall include analysis,  
5 documentation, and determination regarding whether the  
6 island of St. Croix—

7           (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and  
8           cultural resources that together represent distinctive  
9           aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition,  
10          conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and  
11          are best managed through partnerships among pub-  
12          lic and private entities and by combining diverse and  
13          sometimes noncontiguous resources and active com-  
14          munities;

15          (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and  
16          folklife that are a valuable part of the national story;

17          (3) provides outstanding opportunities to con-  
18          serve natural, historic, cultural, or scenic features;

19          (4) provides outstanding recreational and edu-  
20          cational opportunities;

21          (5) contains resources important to the identi-  
22          fied theme or themes of the island of St. Croix that  
23          retain a degree of integrity capable of supporting in-  
24          terpretation;

1           (6) includes residents, business interests, non-  
2           profit organizations, and local and State govern-  
3           ments that are involved in the planning, have devel-  
4           oped a conceptual financial plan that outlines the  
5           roles of all participants (including the Federal Gov-  
6           ernment), and have demonstrated support for the  
7           concept of a national heritage area;

8           (7) has a potential management entity to work  
9           in partnership with residents, business interests,  
10          nonprofit organizations, and local and State govern-  
11          ments to develop a national heritage area consistent  
12          with continued local and State economic activity;  
13          and

14          (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-  
15          ported by the public.

16 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

17          Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which  
18          funds are first made available for this Act, the Secretary  
19          of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Resources  
20          of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
21          Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on  
22          the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the  
23          study.

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