

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1227

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 4, 2002

Referred to the Committee on Resources

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area in the State of New York, 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 “Niagara Falls National
5 Heritage Area Study Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
4 the Secretary of the Interior.

5 (2) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
6 means lands in Niagara County, New York, along
7 and in the vicinity of the Niagara River.

8 **SEC. 3. NIAGARA FALLS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA STUDY.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a
10 study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing a
11 heritage area in the State of New York to be known as
12 the “Niagara Falls National Heritage Area”.

13 (b) ANALYSES AND DOCUMENTATION.—The study
14 shall include analysis and documentation of whether the
15 study area—

16 (1) contains an assemblage of natural, histor-
17 ical, scenic, and cultural resources that represent
18 distinctive aspects of the heritage of the United
19 States that—

20 (A) are worthy of recognition, conserva-
21 tion, interpretation, and continued use; and

22 (B) would best be managed—

23 (i) through partnerships among public
24 and private entities; and

1 (ii) by combining diverse and some-
2 times noncontiguous resources and active
3 communities;

4 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
5 folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the
6 United States;

7 (3) provides outstanding opportunities to con-
8 serve natural, historical, scenic, or cultural features;

9 (4) provides outstanding recreational and edu-
10 cational opportunities;

11 (5) contains resources important to the identi-
12 fied theme of the study area that retain a degree of
13 integrity capable of supporting interpretation;

14 (6) includes residents, business interests, non-
15 profit organizations, and State and local govern-
16 ments that—

17 (A) are involved in planning a national
18 heritage area;

19 (B) have developed a conceptual financial
20 plan for a national heritage area that outlines
21 the roles for all participants, including the Fed-
22 eral Government; and

23 (C) have demonstrated support for the
24 concept of a national heritage area;

1 (7) has a potential management entity to work
2 in partnership with residents, business interests,
3 nonprofit organizations, and State and local govern-
4 ments to develop a national heritage area consistent
5 with continued State and local economic activity;
6 and

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

9 (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the
10 Secretary shall consult with—

11 (1) State and local agencies; and

12 (2) interested organizations within the study
13 area.

14 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 fiscal years after the
15 date on which funds are made available to carry out this
16 Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Re-
17 sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
18 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
19 a report that describes the findings, conclusions, and rec-
20 ommendations of the study under subsection (a).

21 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 There is authorized to be appropriated \$300,000 to
23 carry out this Act.

 Passed the Senate August 1, 2002.

Attest:

JERI THOMSON,

Secretary.