

# Calendar No. 571

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

# S. 1638

[Report No. 107-254]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the French Colonial Heritage Area in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 6, 2001

Mr. BOND (for himself and Mrs. CARNAHAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 9, 2002

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the French Colonial Heritage Area in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “French Colonial Herit-  
3 age Area Study Act of 2001”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds that—

6 (1) the French Colonial Heritage Area is of  
7 great historical significance as the home of—

8 (A) 2 of the 5 poteaux-en-terre (post in the  
9 ground) vertical log French homes remaining in  
10 North America, dating from circa 1800; and

11 (B) several other important historical arti-  
12 facts;

13 (2) the Heritage Area is located in the Ste.  
14 Genevieve National Historic District and is adjacent  
15 to related historic properties, including—

16 (A) a third North American poteaux-en-  
17 terre home;

18 (B) the Le Grand Champ, a common field  
19 used by French settlers;

20 (C) historic downtown Ste. Genevieve; and

21 (D) a prehistoric Native American village  
22 evidenced by several ceremonial mounds;

23 (3) the Heritage Area contains several of the  
24 last remaining examples of French colonial period  
25 settlements that emphasized integration with the  
26 local culture;

1           (4) local agencies and organizations in the  
 2           State of Missouri have undertaken significant efforts  
 3           to—

4                   (A) preserve the historic architecture of  
 5           Ste. Genevieve; and

6                   (B) convert historic properties to edu-  
 7           cational facilities devoted to the history of the  
 8           early French experience in the United States;  
 9           and

10          (5) no unit of the National Park System has  
 11          comparable historical features providing the cultural  
 12          backdrop required to adequately interpret the story  
 13          of the early French settlers in the United States.

14   **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

15          In this Act:

16               (1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage  
 17          Area” means the French Colonial Heritage Area, in-  
 18          cluding the Bequette-Ribault, St. Gemme-  
 19          Amoureux, and Wilhawk homes and the related and  
 20          supporting historical assets in Ste. Genevieve Coun-  
 21          ty, Missouri.

22               (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means  
 23          the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-  
 24          rector of the National Park Service.

1 **SEC. 4. STUDY.**

2 (a) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Not later than 3 years after the  
3 date on which funds are made available to carry out this  
4 Act, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the State of  
5 Missouri—

6 (1) complete a study on the suitability and fea-  
7 sibility of designating the Heritage Area as a unit  
8 of the National Park System; and

9 (2) submit to the Committee on Resources of  
10 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
11 Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a re-  
12 port describing the findings of the study.

13 (b) ~~CONTENTS.~~—The study required under sub-  
14 section (a) shall be conducted in accordance with Public  
15 Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-1 et seq.).

16 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
18 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

19 **SECTION 1. STUDY.**

20 *Not later than 3 years after the date of which funds*  
21 *are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary of*  
22 *the Interior shall, in consultation with the State of Mis-*  
23 *souri, complete a study on the suitability and feasibility*  
24 *of designating the French Colonial Historic District, in-*  
25 *cluding the Bequette-Ribault, St. Gemme-Amoureaux, and*  
26 *Wilhawk homes and the related and supporting historical*

1 *assets in Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri, as a unit of the*  
2 *National Park System, and submit to the Committee on*  
3 *Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Com-*  
4 *mittee on Resources of the House of Representatives a report*  
5 *describing the findings of the study.*

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 *There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as*  
8 *are necessary to carry out this Act.*

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