

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3775

To provide for the update of the Cultural Heritage and Land Management Plan for the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, to extend the authority of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, to authorize a special resources study to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of a national park unit within the Corridor, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To provide for the update of the Cultural Heritage and Land Management Plan for the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, to extend the authority of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, to authorize a special resources study to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of a national park unit within the Corridor, 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 “John H. Chafee Black-
3 stone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Reauthor-
4 ization Act of 2005”.

5 **SEC. 2. JOHN H. CHAFEE BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NA-**
6 **TIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.**

7 (a) COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP.—Section 3(b) of
8 Public Law 99–646 (16 U.S.C. 461 note) is amended—

9 (1) by striking “nineteen members” and insert-
10 ing “25 members”;

11 (2) in paragraph (2) by striking “Massachu-
12 setts Department of Environmental Management”
13 and inserting “Massachusetts Executive Office of
14 Environmental Affairs”;

15 (3) in paragraph (3)—

16 (A) by striking “four representatives” and
17 inserting “5 representatives”; and

18 (B) by striking the “; and” and inserting
19 a semicolon;

20 (4) in paragraph (4)—

21 (A) by striking “2 individuals, nominated
22 by the Governor of Massachusetts and two indi-
23 viduals nominated by the Governor of Rhode Is-
24 land” and inserting “3 individuals, nominated
25 by the Governor of Massachusetts and 3 indi-

1 individuals nominated by the Governor of Rhode Is-
2 land”; and

3 (B) by striking the period and inserting “;
4 and”; and

5 (5) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(5) 1 individual from Massachusetts and 1 in-
8 dividual from Rhode Island, each to be appointed by
9 the Secretary to represent non-governmental organi-
10 zations, having expertise and interest in on or more
11 of the following fields: historic preservation, con-
12 servation, outdoor recreation, cultural conservation,
13 traditional arts, community development, and tour-
14 ism.”.

15 (b) QUORUM.—Section 3(f) of Public Law 99–647
16 (16 U.S.C. 461 note) is amended by striking “Ten mem-
17 bers of the Commission” and inserting “Thirteen members
18 of the Commission”.

19 (c) UPDATE OF PLAN.—Section 6 of Public Law 99–
20 647 (16 U.S.C. 461 note) is amended by adding at the
21 end the following:

22 “(e) UPDATE OF PLAN.—(1) Not later than 2 years
23 after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the
24 Commission shall update the plan.

1 “(2) In updating the plan under paragraph (1), the
2 Commission shall take into account the findings included
3 in the Sustainability Study Report that was prepared for
4 the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor
5 Commission, and as a case study for the National Park
6 System Advisory Board Partnership Committee on the fu-
7 ture of National Heritage Areas in the National Park Sys-
8 tem.

9 “(3) The update shall include—

10 “(A) performance goals;

11 “(B) options for resource protection, interpreta-
12 tion, and enhancements, including funding program;
13 and

14 “(C) sustainable partnership strategies.

15 “(4) The Secretary shall approve or disapprove any
16 changes (other than minor revisions) to the plan proposed
17 in the update in accordance with subsection (b).”.

18 (d) EXTENSION OF COMMISSION.—Public Law 99–
19 647 (16 U.S.C. 461 note) is amending section 7 to read
20 as follows:

21 **“SEC. 7. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.**

22 “The Commission shall terminate on the date that
23 is 10 years after the date of the enactment of the John
24 H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Cor-
25 ridor Reauthorization Act of 2005.”.

1 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
2 10 of Public Law 99–647 (16 U.S.C. 461 note) is amend-
3 ed—

4 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “650,00” and
5 inserting “1,000,000”; and

6 (2) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
7 lows:

8 “(b) DEVELOPMENT FUNDS.—There is authorized to
9 be appropriated to carry out section 8(c) not more than
10 \$10,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2006 through
11 2016, to remain available until expended.”.

12 **SEC. 3. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the
14 date on which funds are made available to carry out this
15 Act, the Secretary shall complete a special resource study
16 to evaluate—

17 (1) the sites and associated landscape features
18 that contribute to the understanding of the Black-
19 stone River Valley as the Birthplace of the American
20 Industrial Revolution;

21 (2) the suitability and feasibility of designating
22 one or more sites and landscapes features within the
23 boundaries of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River
24 Valley National Heritage Corridor as a unit of the
25 National Park System; and

1 (3) opportunities to coordinate and complement
2 actions by the Commission, local governments, and
3 State and Federal agencies in the preservation and
4 interpretation of significant resources within the Na-
5 tional Heritage Corridor.

6 (b) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate
7 the study conducted under this section with the John H.
8 Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Cor-
9 ridor Commission.

10 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date
11 on which the study conducted under this section is com-
12 pleted, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
13 Resources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
14 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
15 a report that describes—

16 (1) the findings of the study; and

17 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
18 Secretary.

19 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
20 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
21 essary to carry out the study required by this section.

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