

Calendar No. 245

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1627

[Report No. 109–153]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study to evaluate resources along the coastal region of the State of Delaware and to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing a unit of the National Park System in Delaware.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

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

OCTOBER 19, 2005

Reported by Mr. DOMENICI, without amendment

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study to evaluate resources along the coastal region of the State of Delaware and to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing a unit of the National Park System in Delaware.

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 “Delaware National
3 Coastal Special Resources Study Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. STUDY.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (re-
6 ferred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a
7 special resources study of the national significance, suit-
8 ability, and feasibility of including sites in the coastal re-
9 gion of the State of Delaware in the National Park Sys-
10 tem.

11 (b) INCLUSION OF SITES IN THE NATIONAL PARK
12 SYSTEM.—The study under subsection (a) shall include an
13 analysis and any recommendations of the Secretary con-
14 cerning the suitability and feasibility of designating 1 or
15 more of the sites along the Delaware coast, including Fort
16 Christina, as a unit of the National Park System that re-
17 lates to the themes described in section 3.

18 (c) STUDY GUIDELINES.—In conducting the study
19 authorized under subsection (a), the Secretary shall use
20 the criteria for the study of areas for potential inclusion
21 in the National Park System contained in section 8 of
22 Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5).

23 (d) CONSULTATION.—In preparing and conducting
24 the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult
25 with—

26 (1) the State of Delaware;

1 (2) the coastal region communities; and

2 (3) the general public.

3 **SEC. 3. THEMES.**

4 The study authorized under section 2 shall evaluate
5 sites along the coastal region of the State of Delaware that
6 relate to—

7 (1) the history of indigenous peoples, which
8 would explore the history of Native American tribes
9 of Delaware, such as the Nanticoke and Lenni
10 Lenape;

11 (2) the colonization and establishment of the
12 frontier, which would chronicle the first European
13 settlers in the Delaware Valley who built fortifica-
14 tions for the protection of settlers, such as Fort
15 Christina;

16 (3) the founding of a nation, which would docu-
17 ment the contributions of Delaware to the develop-
18 ment of our constitutional republic;

19 (4) industrial development, which would inves-
20 tigate the exploitation of water power in Delaware
21 with the mill development on the Brandywine River;

22 (5) transportation, which would explore how
23 water served as the main transportation link, con-
24 necting Colonial Delaware with England, Europe,
25 and other colonies;

1 (6) coastal defense, which would document the
2 collection of fortifications spaced along the river and
3 bay from Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island to
4 Fort Miles near Lewes;

5 (7) the last stop to freedom, which would detail
6 the role Delaware has played in the history of the
7 Underground Railroad network; and

8 (8) the coastal environment, which would exam-
9 ine natural resources of Delaware that provide re-
10 source-based recreational opportunities such as crab-
11 bing, fishing, swimming, and boating.

12 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

13 Not later than 1 year after funds are made available
14 to carry out this Act under section 5, the Secretary shall
15 submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
16 sources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources
17 of the House of Representatives a report containing the
18 findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study
19 conducted under section 2.

20 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
22 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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