Public Law 109–378
109th Congress

An Act

To amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability study originally prepared for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and provide for the inclusion of new trail segments, land components, and campgrounds associated with that trail, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY STUDY OF TRAIL OF TEARS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.

Section 5(a)(16) of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(a)(16)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “subsections” and inserting “sections”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

(C) Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall complete the remaining criteria and submit to Congress a study regarding the feasibility and suitability of designating, as additional components of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, the following routes and land components by which the Cherokee Nation was removed to Oklahoma:

(i) The Benge and Bell routes.

(ii) The land components of the designated water routes in Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

(iii) The routes from the collection forts in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee to the emigration depots.

(iv) The related campgrounds located along the routes and land components described in clauses (i) through (iii).

(D) No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subparagraph (C). The Secretary may
accept donations for the Trail from private, nonprofit, or tribal organizations.”.

Approved December 1, 2006.