

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1921

To amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 2007

Mr. WEBB (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. LOTT, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BURR, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. McCASKILL, and Mrs. CLINTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, 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 “Civil War Battlefield
5 Preservation Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Civil War battlefields provide a means for
2 the people of the United States to understand a
3 tragic period in the history of the United States.

4 (2) According to the Report on the Nation's
5 Civil War Battlefields, prepared by the Civil War
6 Sites Advisory Commission, and dated July 1993, of
7 the 384 principal Civil War battlefields—

8 (A) almost 20 percent are lost or frag-
9 mented;

10 (B) 17 percent are in poor condition; and

11 (C) 60 percent have been lost or are in im-
12 minent danger of being fragmented by develop-
13 ment and lost as coherent historic sites.

14 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

15 (1) to act quickly and proactively to preserve
16 and protect nationally significant Civil War battle-
17 fields through conservation easements and fee-simple
18 purchases of those battlefields from willing sellers at
19 fair market value;

20 (2) to create partnerships among State and
21 local governments, regional entities, and the private
22 sector to preserve, conserve, and enhance nationally
23 significant Civil War battlefields; and

24 (3) to prepare our Nation for the upcoming ses-
25 quicentennial commemoration of the Civil War, 2011

1 through 2015, which is expected to stimulate re-
2 newed interest in the conflict and generate unprece-
3 dented visitation to preserved Civil War battle-
4 grounds.

5 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION EXTENDED.**

6 The American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 (16
7 U.S.C. 469k) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (d)(7)(A), by striking “fiscal
9 years 2004 through 2008” and inserting “fiscal
10 years 2009 through 2013”; and

11 (2) in subsection (e), by striking “September
12 30, 2008” and inserting “September 30, 2013”.

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