

Union Calendar No. 441

114TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 1887

[Report No. 114-568]

To amend certain appropriation Acts to repeal the requirement directing the Administrator of General Services to sell Federal property and assets that support the operations of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center in Plum Island, New York, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 2015

Mr. ZELDIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

MAY 16, 2016

Additional sponsors: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. ESTY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HIMES, Mr. ISRAEL, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. HANNA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. KIND, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. TED LIEU of California

MAY 16 2016

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 16, 2015]

A BILL

To amend certain appropriation Acts to repeal the requirement directing the Administrator of General Services to sell Federal property and assets that support the operations of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center in Plum Island, New York, 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. FINDINGS.**

4 *Congress finds the following:*

5 (1) *The Federal Government has owned Plum Is-*
6 *land, New York, since 1899.*

7 (2) *Since 1954, the Plum Island Animal Disease*
8 *Center has conducted unrivaled scientific research on*
9 *a variety of infectious animal-borne diseases, includ-*
10 *ing foot-and-mouth disease, resulting, most recently,*
11 *in the development of a new cell line that rapidly and*
12 *reliably detects this highly debilitating disease of live-*
13 *stock.*

14 (3) *Over 62 years, the Center has had a strong,*
15 *proven record of safety.*

16 (4) *\$23,200,000 in Federal dollars have been*
17 *spent on upgrades to, and the maintenance of, the*
18 *Center since January 2012.*

19 (5) *In addition to the Center, Plum Island con-*
20 *tains cultural, historical, ecological, and natural re-*
21 *sources of regional and national significance.*

22 (6) *Plum Island is situated where the Long Is-*
23 *land Sound and Peconic Bay meet, both of which are*
24 *estuaries that are part of the National Estuary Pro-*

1 *gram and are environmentally and economically sig-*
2 *nificant to the region.*

3 *(7) The Federal Government has invested hun-*
4 *dreds of millions of Federal dollars over the last two*
5 *decades to make long-term improvements with respect*
6 *to the conservation and management needs of Long*
7 *Island Sound and Peconic Bay.*

8 *(8) The Department of Homeland Security has*
9 *undertaken a study to consider alternatives for the*
10 *final disposition of Plum Island, including an anal-*
11 *ysis of—*

12 *(A) conservation of the island's resources;*

13 *(B) any remediation responsibilities;*

14 *(C) the need for any legislative changes;*

15 *(D) cost; and*

16 *(E) any revenues from the alternatives.*

17 **SEC. 2. REPORT REQUIRED ON STUDY BY DEPARTMENT OF**
18 **HOMELAND SECURITY ON CLEAN UP AND AL-**
19 **TERNATIVE USES OF PLUM ISLAND.**

20 *(a) ASSESSMENT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—*

21 *(1) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—The Comptroller*
22 *General of the United States shall conduct an assess-*
23 *ment of the study by the Department of Homeland*
24 *Security on the options for the disposition of Plum*
25 *Island referred to in section 1(8). Such assessment*

1 shall include a determination of whether the meth-
2 odologies used by the Department in conducting such
3 study adequately support the Department's findings
4 with respect to the following:

5 (A) The possible alternative uses for Plum
6 Island, including the transfer of ownership to
7 another Federal agency, a State or local govern-
8 ment, a nonprofit organization, or a combina-
9 tion thereof for the purpose of education, re-
10 search, or conservation.

11 (B) The possible issues and implications, if
12 any, of pursuing such alternative uses for Plum
13 Island.

14 (C) The potential cost to be incurred for ex-
15 penses related to the transition, cleanup, and
16 hazard mitigation of Plum Island by a recipient
17 of such property.

18 (2) *REPORT REQUIRED.*—Not later than 180
19 days after the date on which the Department of
20 Homeland Security completes the study referred to in
21 section 1(8), the Comptroller General of the United
22 States shall submit to Congress a report containing
23 the following:

24 (A) The results of the assessment described
25 under paragraph (1).

1 (B) A description of the Secretary of Home-
2 land Security's coordination with the Adminis-
3 trator of General Services, the Secretary of the
4 Interior, and the Administrator of the Environ-
5 mental Protection Agency in conducting the De-
6 partment of Homeland Security study referred to
7 in section 1(8).

8 (b) STUDY BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

9 (1) STUDY REQUIRED.—If the Comptroller Gen-
10 eral of the United States determines that the meth-
11 odologies referred to in subsection (a)(1) do not ade-
12 quately support the Department of Homeland Secu-
13 rity's findings related to an issue described in sub-
14 paragraphs (A) through (C) of such subsection, the
15 Comptroller General shall conduct a study on any
16 such issue.

17 (2) REPORT REQUIRED.—If the Comptroller
18 General of the United States conducts a study under
19 paragraph (1), not later than one year after the date
20 on which the Department of Homeland Security com-
21 pletes the study referred to in section 1(8), the Comp-
22 troller General shall submit to Congress a report con-
23 taining the results of the study conducted under para-
24 graph (1).

1 **SEC. 3. SUSPENSION OF ACTION.**

2 *No action may be taken to carry out section 538 of*
3 *title V of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations*
4 *Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74; 125 Stat. 976) until at least*
5 *180 days after the reports required by subsection (a)(2) of*
6 *section 2 and, if applicable, subsection (b)(2) of such section*
7 *have been submitted to Congress.*

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