

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4851

To establish the Kennedy–King National Historic Site in the State of Indiana,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 19, 2018

Mr. CARSON of Indiana (for himself, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. MESSER, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Kennedy–King National Historic Site in
the State of Indiana, 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 “Kennedy–King Estab-
5 lishment Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) On April 4, 1968, Robert F. Kennedy had
9 scheduled a speech in Indianapolis, Indiana, during

1 his campaign for the presidency of the United
2 States.

3 (2) Just before giving his remarks, Mr. Ken-
4 nedy was informed of the assassination of Dr. Mar-
5 tin Luther King, Jr. before the news became widely
6 known publicly.

7 (3) Mr. Kennedy changed his planned remarks
8 to instead inform the large gathering of Dr. King's
9 death and did so in a manner that called for a non-
10 violent reaction to the violent death.

11 (4) Mr. Kennedy's call for non-violence in a mo-
12 ment of unbearable pain helped temper Indianapolis'
13 reaction to Dr. King's assassination so that, unlike
14 many other cities that erupted in violence and riot-
15 ing, Indianapolis did not suffer riots or bloodshed in
16 the days after Dr. King's assassination.

17 (5) Mr. Kennedy's speech on this volatile occa-
18 sion has been described as one of the great address-
19 es of the 20th Century as a call for unity in a time
20 of great unrest.

21 (6) Mr. Kennedy's heartfelt leadership and call
22 for non-violence in the face of violence, and prior to
23 his own assassination, continues to be a model for
24 Americans everywhere.

1 (7) The current park site was established in
2 1961 and has served the community as a gathering
3 place for social movements and engagement, which is
4 why it was selected as the location for Mr. Ken-
5 nedy’s speech.

6 (8) A memorial sculpture, “Landmark for
7 Peace” honoring Mr. Kennedy and Dr. King was
8 erected on the site in 1994 to commemorate the
9 events of April 4, 1968 and the message of non-vio-
10 lence taught by both leaders.

11 (9) Mr. Kennedy’s improvised remarks to a
12 stricken community continue to resonate today and
13 this site continues to inspire social engagement with
14 his words, “Why don’t we make a monument to
15 peace where all of us can live together, not with
16 walls coming up but with walls tearing down, so we
17 can go forward together.”

18 (10) The site of Mr. Kennedy’s speech on April
19 4, 1968, should be preserved as a national treasure
20 and this preservation is most fitting on the 50th an-
21 niversary of the speech.

22 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this Act:

1 (1) HISTORIC SITE.—The term “Historic Site”
2 means the Kennedy–King National Historic Site es-
3 tablished by section 4(a).

4 (2) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map en-
5 titled “Kennedy–King National Historic Site Pro-
6 posed Boundary.”.

7 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
8 the Secretary of the Interior.

9 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
10 of Indiana.

11 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KENNEDY–KING NA-**
12 **TIONAL HISTORIC SITE.**

13 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
15 there is established the Kennedy–King National His-
16 toric Site in the State as a unit of the National Park
17 System to preserve, protect, and interpret for the
18 benefit of present and future generations the site of
19 Senator Robert F. Kennedy’s April 4, 1968 speech
20 associated with the Kennedy–King Park in Indian-
21 apolis, Indiana.

22 (2) CONDITIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—The
23 Historic Site shall not be established until the date
24 on which the Secretary determines that sufficient

1 land has been acquired for the Historic Site to con-
2 stitute a manageable unit.

3 (b) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the Historic
4 Site shall be the boundaries generally depicted on the
5 Map.

6 (c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Map shall be on file
7 and available for public inspection in the appropriate of-
8 fices of the National Park Service.

9 (d) ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire
11 any land or interest in land located within the
12 boundary of the Kennedy–King Park by—

13 (A) donation;

14 (B) purchase with donated or appropriated
15 funds;

16 (C) exchange;

17 (D) lease or no-cost lease; and

18 (E) cooperative agreements to facilitate
19 continued access, maintenance, and promote the
20 success of the site, including revenue genera-
21 tion.

22 (2) BOUNDARY REVISION.—On the acquisition
23 of any property within the Kennedy–King Park
24 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall revise the

1 boundary of the Historic Site to include that prop-
2 erty.

3 (3) PROHIBITION ON ADMISSION FEES.—The
4 Secretary shall not charge for admission fees to the
5 Historic Site.

6 (e) ADMINISTRATION.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall admin-
8 ister the Historic Site in accordance with—

9 (A) this Act; and

10 (B) the laws generally applicable to units
11 of the National Park System, including—

12 (i) section 100101(a), chapter 1003,
13 and sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753,
14 and 102101 of title 54, United States
15 Code; and

16 (ii) chapter 3201 of title 54, United
17 States Code.

18 (2) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6
20 months after the date on which funds are made
21 available to prepare a general management plan
22 for the Historic Site, the Secretary shall pre-
23 pare the general management plan in accord-
24 ance with section 100502 of title 54, United
25 States Code.

1 (B) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Imme-
2 diately after completion of the general manage-
3 ment plan under subparagraph (A), the Sec-
4 retary shall submit the general management
5 plan to the Committee on Natural Resources of
6 the House of Representatives and the Com-
7 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
8 Senate.

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