

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4868

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Pillow Historic State Park in Henning, Tennessee, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 19, 2018

Mr. RUSH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Pillow Historic State Park in Henning, Tennessee, 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 “Fort Pillow National  
5 Battlefield Park Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds as follows:

1           (1) Fort Pillow was built by Confederate troops  
2           in 1861 and named after General Gideon J. Pillow  
3           of Maury County.

4           (2) In 1862, the area was abandoned due to the  
5           Union Navy advancement along the Mississippi  
6           River.

7           (3) The Fort was attacked and captured by the  
8           Union Navy, which mostly controlled it during the  
9           war.

10          (4) On June 4, 1862, Confederate troops evacu-  
11          ated Fort Pillow, enabling Union troops to take  
12          Memphis, Tennessee.

13          (5) On April 12, 1864, the Battle of Fort Pil-  
14          low was fought at Fort Pillow on the Mississippi  
15          River in Henning, Tennessee, during the American  
16          Civil War.

17          (6) The Confederate troops defeated the Union  
18          Navy, resulting in the death of 229 of the 262 black  
19          Union soldiers engaged in the battle.

20          (7) In 1971, Fort Pillow became a State park.

21          (8) In 1973, Fort Pillow was designated as a  
22          Historic Park.

23          (9) Fort Pillow Historic State Park consists of  
24          1,642 acres.

1           (10) It preserves the American Civil War site of  
2           the Battle of Fort Pillow.

3           (11) The park contains several attraction areas  
4           such as a Civil War museum, hiking trail, camping  
5           ground, and picnic area.

6 **SEC. 3. FORT PILLOW SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

7           (a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of the Interior (referred  
8           to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a spe-  
9           cial resource study of Fort Pillow Historic State Park in  
10          Henning, Tennessee.

11          (b) **CONTENTS.**—In conducting the study under sub-  
12          section (a), the Secretary shall—

13               (1) evaluate the national significance of the  
14               site;

15               (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of  
16               designating the site as a unit of the National Park  
17               System; and

18               (3) consider other alternatives for preservation,  
19               protection, and interpretation of the lands by Fed-  
20               eral, State, or local governmental entities, or private  
21               and nonprofit organizations.

22          (c) **APPLICABLE LAW.**—The study authorized under  
23          subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with sec-  
24          tion 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

1       (d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date  
2 on which funds are first made available for the study  
3 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the  
4 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-  
5 resentatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural  
6 Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

7           (1) the findings of the study; and

8           (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the  
9       Secretary.

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