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STE. GENEVIEVE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

SEPTEMBER 27, 2022.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 3338]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 3338), to revise the boundary of the Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in the State of Missouri, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendments and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

AMENDMENTS

The amendments are as follows:

1. On page 2, line 14, insert “AND ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES” after “VISITOR CENTER”.
2. On page 3, strike line 4 and insert the following:

land.

“(4) ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this section as the ‘Secretary’) may acquire, by purchase from a willing seller or by donation, not more than 20 acres of land in the vicinity of the Historical Park for administrative facilities for the Historical Park.”.

PURPOSE

The purpose of S. 3338 is to modify the boundary of the Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in the State of Missouri to allow for the inclusion of the city of Ste. Genevieve’s Welcome Center into the park boundary.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

In 2018, Congress authorized the establishment of Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in Missouri to preserve, protect, and interpret the themes of French Settlement, vernacular architecture, and community form and farming on the frontier (16 U.S.C. 410xxx). The establishment was contingent on the Secretary of the Interior's determination that sufficient land had been acquired to constitute a manageable unit and written agreements had been entered into providing that land owned by the State of Missouri, the city of Ste. Genevieve, or another entity within the National Historic District be managed consistent with the purposes of the Act. Those requirements were met, and the Secretary established Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in October, 2020 (85 Fed. Reg. 78357 (Dec. 4, 2020)).

The National Historical Park's enabling legislation (16 U.S.C. 410xxx) authorizes the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire any land or interest in land located within the boundary of the National Historical Park or any property within the Ste. Genevieve National Historic District National Historic Landmark that was identified as nationally significant in the May 2016 Ste. Genevieve Final Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment. The city of Ste. Genevieve and the NPS entered into an agreement that allows the NPS to use the city-owned Welcome Center as a visitor center for the park. The city wishes to donate that property, approximately one acre in size, to the NPS.

The National Historical Park lacks the authority to address future needs for administrative facilities to support the park. As ordered reported, S. 3338 amends the boundary of the unit to include the Welcome Center into the boundary and authorizes the Secretary to acquire land from a willing seller or by donation for not more than 20 acres for administrative facilities for the National Historical Park.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 3338 was introduced by Senators Blunt and Hawley on December 8, 2021. The Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on S. 3338 on May 11, 2022.

A companion bill, H.R. 6199 was introduced in the House by Representative Jason Smith. H.R. 6199 was ordered reported by the House Natural Resources Committee on February 16, 2022.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in open business session on July 21, 2022, by a voice vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 3338, if amended as described herein. Senator Lee asked to be recorded as voting no.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

During its consideration of S. 3141, the Committee adopted amendments that made several technical corrections and authorized the acquisition of no more than 20 acres of land in the vicinity of the park for park administrative facilities.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title

Section 1 provides the short title, the “Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act.”

Sec. 2. Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park Boundary Revision

Section 2(a) amends the National Historical Park’s enabling legislation, section 7134(a)(3) of the Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017 (as enacted into law by section 121(a)(2) of division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (16 U.S.C. 410xxx(a)(3))) to reference the revised park boundary map.

Subsection (b) amends section 7134(d) authorizing the Secretary to correct clerical or typographical errors in the map.

Subsection (c) amends section 7134(e) to authorize the Secretary to acquire the city of Ste. Genevieve visitor center by donation and to revise the park boundary to include the acquired land. The Secretary may also purchase from a willing seller or by donation no more than 20 acres in the vicinity of the park for administrative purposes.

COST AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

The Committee has requested, but has not yet received, the Congressional Budget Office’s estimate of the cost of S. 3338 as ordered reported. When the Congressional Budget Office completes its cost estimate, it will be posted on the Internet at www.cbo.gov.

REGULATORY IMPACT EVALUATION

In compliance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee makes the following evaluation of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out S. 3338. The bill is not a regulatory measure in the sense of imposing Government-established standards or significant economic responsibilities on private individuals and businesses. No personal information would be collected in administering the program. Therefore, there would be no impact on personal privacy. Little, if any, additional paperwork would result from the enactment of S. 3338, as ordered reported.

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING

S. 3338, as ordered reported, does not contain any congressionally directed spending items, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The testimony provided by the Department of the Interior at the May 11, 2022 subcommittee hearing on S. 3338 follows:

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ACTING ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES AND LANDS, NA-
TIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTE-
RIOR

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3338, a bill to revise the boundary of the Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in the state of Missouri, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 3338.

S. 3338 would amend the legislation authorizing the establishment of Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park to authorize the acquisition of the property currently owned by the City of Ste. Genevieve and its use as the park's Visitor Center.

Congress authorized the establishment of Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in March 2018 as a unit of the National Park System to preserve, protect, and interpret the themes of French Settlement, vernacular architecture, and community form and farming on the frontier. The establishment was subject to the Secretary of the Interior's determination that sufficient land had been acquired to constitute a manageable unit and written agreements had been entered into providing that land owned by the State of Missouri, the city of Ste. Genevieve, or another entity within the National Historic District be managed consistent with the purposes of the Act. Those requirements have been met, and the Secretary established Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in October 2020.

The establishing legislation authorizes the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire any land or interest in land located within the boundary of the National Historical Park or any property within the Ste. Genevieve National Historic District National Historic Landmark that was identified as nationally significant in the Ste. Genevieve Final Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment of May 2016. The city of Ste. Genevieve and the NPS entered into a General Agreement that allows the NPS to use the city-owned Welcome Center as a visitor center for the park. The city wishes to donate that property, approximately 1 acre in size, to the NPS. However, the current land acquisition authorities in the statute would not apply as the property was not identified as nationally significant in the Special Resource Study. Rather, it is a more modern property, better suited for the functions of the visitor center and administrative purposes. This legislation would authorize the NPS to add this property to the Historical Park boundary and accept the donation of land and improvements.

The NPS appreciates that S. 3338 would provide the authority to acquire the welcome center for its visitor center. The NPS is mindful of future needs for administrative facilities to support the park, and as such, would welcome

additional conversations with the committee about these needs.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill S. 3338, as ordered reported, are shown below (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman).

CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

* * * * *

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018¹

* * * * *

SEC. 7134. STE. GENEVIEVE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) HISTORIC DISTRICT.—The term “Historic District” means the Ste. Genevieve Historic District National Historic Landmark, as generally depicted on the Map.

(2) HISTORICAL PARK.—The term “Historical Park” means the Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park established by subsection (b).

(3) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map entitled “Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park Proposed Boundary”, [numbered 571/149,942, and dated December 2018] *numbered 571/177,464, and dated September 2021.*

(4) SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.—The term “special resource study” means the study entitled “Ste. Genevieve Final Special Resources Study and Environmental Assessment, Missouri” and dated May 2016.

(5) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of Missouri.

* * * * *

(d) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—[The Map]

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Map* shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(2) *AUTHORITY TO CORRECT ERRORS.*—*The Secretary may correct any clerical or typographical errors in the Map.*

(e) ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—

¹Section 121(a)(2) of Division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, Public Law 115–141, 132 Stat. 661, enacted into law section 7134 of S. 1460 of the 115th Congress, a bill to provide for the modernization of the energy and natural resources policies of the United States, and for other purposes, as placed on the Senate Calendar on June 29, 2017. It appears as Appendix B to Public Law 115–141 at 132 Stat. 1225A–5 pursuant to section 121(c) of Public Law 115–141.

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire any land or interest in land located within the boundary of the Historical Park or any nationally significant property identified in the special resource study within the Historic District by—

- (A) donation;
- (B) purchase with donated or appropriated funds; or
- (C) exchange.

(2) BOUNDARY REVISION.—On the acquisition of any property within the Historic District under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall revise the boundary of the Historical Park to include the property.

(3) VISITOR CENTER.—*The Secretary—*

(A) may acquire, by donation, the land (including any improvements to the land) owned by the city of Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, and used as the visitor center for the Historical Park, as generally depicted on the Map as “Proposed Boundary Addition”; and

(B) on acquisition of the land described in subparagraph (A), shall revise the boundary of the Historical Park to include the acquired land.

(4) ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES.—*The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) may acquire, by purchase from a willing seller or by donation, not more than 20 acres of land in the vicinity of the Historical Park for administrative facilities for the Historical Park.*

* * * * *