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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JUNE 28, 2007

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (for himself, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. HINCHLEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. KIND, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. POE, and Mr. ROSS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Civil War Battlefield Preservation Act of 2007”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
(1) Civil War battlefields provide a means for the people of the United States to understand a tragic period in the history of the United States.

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

(A) almost 20 percent are lost or fragmented;

(B) 17 percent are in poor condition; and

(C) 60 percent have been lost or are in imminent danger of being fragmented by development and lost as coherent historic sites.

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

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

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

(3) to prepare our Nation for the upcoming sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War, 2011
through 2015, which is expected to stimulate re-
newed interest in the conflict and generate unprece-
dented visitation to preserved Civil War battle-
grounds.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION EXTENDED.

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

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

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

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