

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2401

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to require annual permits and assess annual fees for commercial filming activities on Federal land for film crews of 5 persons or fewer, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 2015

Mr. LATTA (for himself and Mr. WITTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to require annual permits and assess annual fees for commercial filming activities on Federal land for film crews of 5 persons or fewer, 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. ANNUAL PERMIT AND FEE FOR FILM CREWS OF**  
4 **5 PERSONS OR FEWER.**

5 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to pro-  
6 vide commercial film crews of 5 persons or fewer access

1 to film in areas designated for public use during public  
2 hours on Federal land and waterways.

3 (b) NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM LAND.—Section  
4 100905 of title 54, United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “The  
7 Secretary” and inserting “Except as provided  
8 in paragraph (3), the Secretary”; and

9 (B) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(3) SPECIAL RULES FOR FILM CREWS OF 5  
11 PERSONS OR FEWER.—

12 “(A) DEFINITION OF FILM CREW.—In this  
13 paragraph, the term ‘film crew’ means any per-  
14 sons present on Federal land or waterways  
15 under the jurisdiction of the Secretary who are  
16 associated with the production of a film.

17 “(B) REQUIRED PERMIT AND FEE.—For  
18 any film crew of 5 persons or fewer, the Sec-  
19 retary shall require a permit and assess an an-  
20 nual fee of \$200 for commercial filming activi-  
21 ties or similar projects on Federal land and wa-  
22 terways administered by the Secretary.

23 “(C) COMMERCIAL FILMING ACTIVITIES.—  
24 A permit issued under subparagraph (B) shall  
25 be valid for commercial filming activities or

1 similar projects that occur in areas designated  
2 for public use during public hours on all Fed-  
3 eral land and waterways administered by the  
4 Secretary for a 1-year period beginning on the  
5 date of issuance of the permit.

6 “(D) NO ADDITIONAL FEES.—For persons  
7 holding a permit issued under this paragraph,  
8 during the effective period of the permit, the  
9 Secretary shall not assess any fees in addition  
10 to the fee assessed under subparagraph (B).

11 “(E) USE OF CAMERAS.—The Secretary  
12 shall not prohibit, as a mechanized apparatus  
13 or under any other purposes, use of cameras or  
14 related equipment used for the purpose of com-  
15 mercial filming activities or similar projects in  
16 accordance with this paragraph on Federal land  
17 and waterways administered by the Secretary.

18 “(F) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—A film  
19 crew of 5 persons or fewer subject to a permit  
20 issued under this paragraph shall notify the ap-  
21 plicable land management agency with jurisdic-  
22 tion over the Federal land at least 48 hours be-  
23 fore entering the Federal land.

24 “(G) DENIAL OF ACCESS.—The head of  
25 the applicable land management agency may

1 deny access to a film crew under this paragraph  
2 if—

3 “(i) there is a likelihood of resource  
4 damage that cannot be mitigated;

5 “(ii) there would be an unreasonable  
6 disruption of the use and enjoyment of the  
7 site by the public;

8 “(iii) the activity poses health or safe-  
9 ty risks to the public; or

10 “(iv) the filming includes the use of  
11 models or props that are not part of the  
12 natural or cultural resources or adminis-  
13 trative facilities of the Federal land.”; and

14 (2) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by  
15 striking “collect any costs” and inserting “recover  
16 any costs”.

17 (c) OTHER FEDERAL LAND.—Section 1 of Public  
18 Law 106–206 (16 U.S.C. 460l–6d) is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (a)—

20 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “The  
21 Secretary” and inserting “Except as provided  
22 in paragraph (3), the Secretary”; and

23 (B) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(3) SPECIAL RULES FOR FILM CREWS OF 5  
25 PERSONS OR FEWER.—

1           “(A) DEFINITION OF FILM CREW.—In this  
2 paragraph, the term ‘film crew’ means any per-  
3 sons present on Federal land or waterways  
4 under the jurisdiction of the Secretary who are  
5 associated with the production of a film.

6           “(B) REQUIRED PERMIT AND FEE.—For  
7 any film crew of 5 persons or fewer, the Sec-  
8 retary shall require a permit and assess an an-  
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10 ties or similar projects on Federal land and wa-  
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13 A permit issued under subparagraph (B) shall  
14 be valid for commercial filming activities or  
15 similar projects that occur in areas designated  
16 for public use during public hours on all Fed-  
17 eral land and waterways administered by the  
18 Secretary for a 1-year period beginning on the  
19 date of issuance of the permit.

20           “(D) NO ADDITIONAL FEES.—For persons  
21 holding a permit issued under this paragraph,  
22 during the effective period of the permit, the  
23 Secretary shall not assess any fees in addition  
24 to the fee assessed under subparagraph (B).

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2 shall not prohibit, as a mechanized apparatus  
3 or under any other purposes, use of cameras or  
4 related equipment used for the purpose of com-  
5 mercial filming activities or similar projects in  
6 accordance with this paragraph on Federal land  
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14           “(G) DENIAL OF ACCESS.—The head of  
15 the applicable land management agency may  
16 deny access to a film crew under this paragraph  
17 if—

18                   “(i) there is a likelihood of resource  
19 damage that cannot be mitigated;

20                   “(ii) there would be an unreasonable  
21 disruption of the use and enjoyment of the  
22 site by the public;

23                   “(iii) the activity poses health or safe-  
24 ty risks to the public; or

1                   “(iv) the filming includes the use of  
2                   models or props that are not part of the  
3                   natural or cultural resources or adminis-  
4                   trative facilities of the Federal land.”; and

5                   (2) in the first sentence of subsection (b)—

6                   (A) by striking “collect any costs” and in-  
7                   serting “recover any costs”; and

8                   (B) by striking “similar project” and in-  
9                   serting “similar projects”.

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