

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 644

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Medgar Evers House, located in Jackson, Mississippi, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15, 2017

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself and Mr. WICKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Medgar Evers House, located in Jackson, Mississippi, 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 “Medgar Evers House
5 Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. 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 the home of the late civil rights ac-

1 tivist Medgar Evers, located at 2332 Margaret Walker
2 Alexander Drive in Jackson, Mississippi.

3 (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-
4 section (a), the Secretary shall—

5 (1) evaluate the national significance of the
6 site;

7 (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of
8 designating the site as a unit of the National Park
9 System;

10 (3) consider other alternatives for preservation,
11 protection, and interpretation of the site by Federal,
12 State, or local governmental entities, or private and
13 nonprofit organizations;

14 (4) consult with interested Federal, State, or
15 local governmental entities, private and nonprofit or-
16 ganizations or any other interested individuals;

17 (5) determine the effect of the designation of
18 the site as a unit of the National Park System on
19 existing commercial and recreational uses, and the
20 effect on State and local governments to manage
21 those activities;

22 (6) identify any authorities, including con-
23 demnation, that will compel or permit the Secretary
24 to influence or participate in local land use decisions
25 (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal

1 land if the site is designated a unit of the National
2 Park System; and

3 (7) identify cost estimates for any Federal ac-
4 quisition, development, interpretation, operation, and
5 maintenance associated with the alternatives.

6 (c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under
7 subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with sec-
8 tion 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

9 (d) STUDY RESULTS.—Not later than 3 years after
10 the date on which funds are first made available for the
11 study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to
12 the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural
14 Resources of the Senate the results of the study and any
15 conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

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