

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8539

To amend title 54, United States Code, to ensure historically accurate exhibits at National Park Service sites, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2026

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend title 54, United States Code, to ensure historically accurate exhibits at National Park Service sites, 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 “Truth in National  
5 Parks Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INTERPRETIVE PRO-**  
2 **GRAMS.**

3 (a) INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION EVALUATION  
4 AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT.—Section 100803 of title  
5 54, United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “; and” and  
7 inserting a semicolon;

8 (2) in paragraph (4), by striking “analysis.”  
9 and inserting “analysis; and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(5) are historically and culturally accurate.”.

12 (b) EDITING AND REMOVING INFORMATION.—Chapter  
13 ter 1008 of title 54, United States Code, is amended by  
14 adding at the end the following:

15 **“§ 100805. Removal or editing of interpretive or edu-**  
16 **cational materials**

17 “(a) AVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
19 graph (2), in carrying out this chapter, the Sec-  
20 retary shall not remove, obscure, edit, or otherwise  
21 alter interpretive or educational materials at a Sys-  
22 tem unit if such interpretive or educational materials  
23 are—

24 “(A) historically and culturally accurate;  
25 and

1                   “(B) consistent with the purposes and  
2                   foundational documents of the System unit.

3                   “(2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may take  
4                   such steps as are necessary (including removing, ob-  
5                   scuring, editing, or altering interpretive or edu-  
6                   cational materials) to—

7                   “(A) update historically and culturally ac-  
8                   curate information on public display at a Sys-  
9                   tem unit; or

10                  “(B) accommodate new historically and  
11                  culturally accurate public exhibits and displays  
12                  at a System unit.

13                  “(b) CONSULTATION.—In updating information or  
14                  accommodating new public exhibits and displays under  
15                  subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall consult with relevant  
16                  constituencies, including Indian Tribes when appropriate,  
17                  to determine if removing, obscuring, editing, or otherwise  
18                  altering interpretive or educational materials is appro-  
19                  priate.

20                  “(c) INTERPRETIVE OR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS  
21                  DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘interpretive or edu-  
22                  cational materials’ means interpretation and education  
23                  program materials on public display at a System unit, in-  
24                  cluding—

1           “(1) signs, plaques, flags, and other exhibits;  
2           and  
3           “(2) online materials related to such System  
4           unit.”.

5           (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
6           tents for chapter 1008 of title 54, United States Code,  
7           is amended by adding at the end the following:

          “100805. Removal or editing of interpretive and educational materials.”.

8           (d) REPLACEMENT OF REMOVED MATERIALS.—Not  
9           later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of  
10          this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall replace or re-  
11          store, as applicable, at each unit of the National Park Sys-  
12          tem, any historically and culturally accurate interpretive  
13          or educational materials removed, obscured, edited, or oth-  
14          erwise altered during the period beginning on January 20,  
15          2025, and ending on the date of the enactment is this  
16          Act.

17       **SEC. 3. CO-STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT REPORT.**

18          Not later than one year after the date of the enact-  
19          ment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit  
20          to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of  
21          Representatives and the Committees on Indian Affairs and  
22          Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on  
23          the status of co-stewardship agreements between Indige-  
24          nous communities (including Indian Tribes and Native  
25          Hawaiian Organizations) and Federal agencies, including

- 1 recommendations on how to improve co-stewardship agree-
- 2 ment processes to meet Federal trust obligations with re-
- 3 spect to such Indigenous communities.

