

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8638

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington
Spy Ring National Historic Trail, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2026

Mr. SUOZZI (for himself and Mr. LALOTA) introduced the following bill; which
was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the
Washington Spy Ring National Historic Trail, 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 “Washington Spy Ring
5 National Historic Trail Designation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Culper Spy Ring was a group of Amer-
9 ican Revolutionaries who gathered intelligence on
10 British troop movements and fortifications in Man-

1 hattan, Long Island, and elsewhere for General
2 George Washington.

3 (2) The Culper Spy Ring is credited with un-
4 covering Benedict Arnold's conspiracy to surrender
5 West Point to the British and saving the Franco-
6 American alliance by uncovering plans to ambush
7 the French army in Rhode Island.

8 (3) Key locations used by the Culper Spy Ring
9 include—

10 (A) Raynham Hall in Oyster Bay, New
11 York, the home of intelligence operative Robert
12 Townsend;

13 (B) the Arsenal (also known as the Job
14 Sammis House) in Huntington, New York,
15 which was used to store gunpowder during the
16 British occupation of Long Island and the town
17 of Huntington;

18 (C) the Brewster House, a tavern in
19 Setauket, New York, owned by the Brewster
20 family and used to spy on British officers and
21 transfer information to General Washington
22 across the Long Island Sound; and

23 (D) generally, the byways and highways
24 connecting these sites.

1 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF THE WASHINGTON SPY RING NA-**
2 **TIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.**

3 Section 5(a) of the National Trails System Act (16
4 U.S.C. 1244(a)) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating the second paragraph (31)
6 (relating to Butterfield Overland National Historic
7 Trail) as paragraph (32); and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(33) WASHINGTON SPY RING NATIONAL HIS-
10 TORIC TRAIL.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Washington Spy
12 Ring National Historic Trail, a trail of approxi-
13 mately 50 miles of village, town, and city
14 streets and New York Route 25A, from Great
15 Neck, New York, along Long Island’s North
16 Shore, through Nassau and Suffolk Counties, to
17 Port Jefferson, New York, following the route
18 generally depicted on the map titled ‘Proposed
19 Washington Spy Ring National Historic Trail
20 Extent and Key Locations’, numbered NERO
21 962/198100, and dated November 2025.

22 “(B) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map
23 described in subparagraph (A) shall be on file
24 and available for public inspection in the appro-
25 priate office of the Secretary of the Interior.

1 “(C) ADMINISTRATION.—In cooperation
2 with the Secretary of the Interior, the Wash-
3 ington Spy Ring National Historic Trail des-
4 ignated by this paragraph shall be administered
5 by the North Shore Promotion Alliance, an or-
6 ganization described in section 501(c)(6) of the
7 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt
8 from taxation under section 501(a) of such
9 Code.”.

○