

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9348

To require the Secretary of the Army to include in any final recommendation for a water resources development project of the Corps of Engineers a plan to maintain equivalent levels of access to existing public recreational amenities, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2026

Ms. FRIEDMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

---

## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Army to include in any final recommendation for a water resources development project of the Corps of Engineers a plan to maintain equivalent levels of access to existing public recreational amenities, 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 “Public Access Protec-  
5       tion Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that, during construction  
3 of a water resources development project of the Corps of  
4 Engineers that affects a public recreational amenity, in-  
5 cluding a park, a trail, a green space, a recreational water-  
6 way, and any other public open space, the Secretary of  
7 the Army should—

8 (1) maintain an equivalent level of recreational  
9 access to such public recreational amenity;

10 (2) minimize temporary disruptions to such ac-  
11 cess through project planning and coordination with  
12 affected communities; and

13 (3) provide alternative public access where nec-  
14 essary to ensure continued recreational opportunities  
15 for the duration of such construction.

16 **SEC. 3. RECREATIONAL ACCESS PRESERVATION PLAN.**

17 To the maximum extent practicable, in carrying out  
18 a feasibility study for a water resources development  
19 project of the Corps of Engineers, the Secretary shall—

20 (1) review the potential impact of construction  
21 of the project on existing public recreational amen-  
22 ities, including facilities for hiking, biking, walking,  
23 and waterborne recreation; and

24 (2) include in any final recommendation for  
25 such project a plan to maintain an equivalent level

- 1 of access to such amenities during construction of
- 2 the project.

