

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5169

To expand the boundaries of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, to recognize and enhance the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District partnership model, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 2026

Mr. JUSTICE (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. WARNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To expand the boundaries of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, to recognize and enhance the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District partnership model, 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 “Shenandoah Valley
5 Battlefields National Historic District Boundary Expan-
6 sion and Partnership Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION AND ADMINISTRATION OF SHEN-**
 2 **ANDOAH VALLEY BATTLEFIELDS NATIONAL**
 3 **HISTORIC DISTRICT.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) DISTRICT.—The term “District” means the
 6 Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic
 7 District established by subsection (e) of the Shen-
 8 andoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District
 9 and Commission Act of 1996 (section 606 of division
 10 I of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Manage-
 11 ment Act of 1996) (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public
 12 Law 104–333) (as amended by subsection (b)).

13 (2) MANAGEMENT ENTITY; PLAN.—The terms
 14 “management entity” and “plan” have the meanings
 15 given those terms in subsection (d) of the Shen-
 16 andoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District
 17 and Commission Act of 1996 (54 U.S.C. 320101
 18 note; Public Law 104–333).

19 (b) BOUNDARY EXPANSION.—Subsection (e) of the
 20 Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District
 21 and Commission Act of 1996 (54 U.S.C. 320101 note;
 22 Public Law 104–333) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Common-
 24 wealth of Virginia” and inserting “States of Virginia
 25 and West Virginia”; and

26 (2) in paragraph (2)—

1 (A) by striking “(A) The corridor shall
 2 consist of lands and interests therein as” and
 3 inserting the following:

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The District shall
 5 consist of—

6 “(i) land and interests in land, as”;

7 (B) in subparagraph (A)—

8 (i) in clause (i) (as so designated), by
 9 striking the period at the end and inserting
 10 a semicolon; and

11 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
 12 lowing:

13 “(ii) Rockbridge County, Virginia;

14 “(iii) Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan
 15 Counties, West Virginia; and”;

16 (C) in subparagraph (B)—

17 (i) by striking “subparagraph (A)”
 18 and inserting “clause (i) or any of the
 19 counties described in clauses (ii) and (iii)”;
 20 and

21 (ii) by striking “(B) The District shall
 22 consist of historic” and inserting the fol-
 23 lowing:

24 “(iv) any historic”; and

1 (D) in subparagraph (C), by striking “(C)
 2 The map referred to in subparagraph (A)” and
 3 inserting the following:

4 “(B) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map re-
 5 ferred to in subparagraph (A)(i)”.

6 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The District shall be man-
 8 aged and administered by the management entity—

9 (A) as a distinct National Historic District
 10 partnership model; and

11 (B) subject to paragraph (2), in accord-
 12 ance with—

13 (i) the purposes described in sub-
 14 section (c) of the Shenandoah Valley Bat-
 15 tlefields National Historic District and
 16 Commission Act of 1996 (54 U.S.C.
 17 320101 note; Public Law 104–333); and

18 (ii) the plan, subject to the condition
 19 that the plan shall be updated as necessary
 20 to address interpretive measures, partner-
 21 ships, and other resources and needs in the
 22 areas added to the District by the amend-
 23 ments made by subsection (b).

24 (2) REFERENCES.—Any reference contained in
 25 the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National His-

1 toric District and Commission Act of 1996 (54
 2 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public Law 104–333) or the
 3 plan to the “Commonwealth of Virginia” shall be
 4 considered to be a reference to the “States of Vir-
 5 ginia and West Virginia”.

6 (3) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW.—Notwith-
 7 standing any other provision of law, the District
 8 shall not be subject to the administrative provisions
 9 or funding allocation formulas applicable to compo-
 10 nents of the National Heritage Area System under
 11 section 6001 of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conserva-
 12 tion, Management, and Recreation Act (54 U.S.C.
 13 320101 note; Public Law 116–9).

14 (4) ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING.—Notwith-
 15 standing any other provision of law, for fiscal year
 16 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter, the District
 17 and the management entity shall continue—

18 (A) to receive funding for purposes of
 19 management and administration of the District
 20 in an amount equal to not less than the amount
 21 provided for those purposes in fiscal year 2026;
 22 and

23 (B) to be eligible for any technical assist-
 24 ance or grants otherwise available to National
 25 Heritage Areas.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated—

3 (1) for fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year
4 thereafter, \$1,250,000 to the management entity, of
5 which—

6 (A) not more than \$625,000 for each fiscal
7 year shall be used for operations of the manage-
8 ment entity; and

9 (B) not more than \$625,000 for each fiscal
10 year shall be used for the operation and mainte-
11 nance of the battlefield parks, visitor facilities,
12 and preserved historic properties in the District;
13 and

14 (2) for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2033,
15 \$2,500,000 for—

16 (A) grants and technical assistance under
17 subsection (g) of the Shenandoah Valley Battle-
18 fields National Historic District and Commis-
19 sion Act of 1996 (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Pub-
20 lic Law 104–333); and

21 (B) the acquisition from willing sellers of
22 land and interests in land for the District.

23 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
24 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior
25 shall submit to Congress a report that includes rec-

- 1 ommendations of the Secretary for methods to replicate
- 2 the partnership model used in the District at other loca-
- 3 tions in the National Park System.

