

PENDING LEGISLATION

HEARING BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

H.R. 268	S. 2964	S. 3519
H.R. 1931	S. 3141	S. 3551
S. 557	S. 3185	S. 3667
S. 1344	S. 3240	S. 3685
S. 1718	S. 3307	S. 4114
S. 1814/H.R. 3531	S. 3334	S. 4121
S. 2367	S. 3338	

MAY 11, 2022



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PENDING LEGISLATION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC.

The Subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:02 a.m. in Room SD-366, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Angus S. King, Jr. presiding.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. ANGUS S. KING JR., U.S. SENATOR FROM MAINE

Senator KING. Good morning. Welcome to today's legislative hearing to consider 20 bills related to a variety of national park issues. In honor of today's hearing, I am wearing my tie which has on it small figures of Mount Desert Island, where Acadia National Park is, so, there it is, if you wonder what these figures are.

Among these bills, we will hear about efforts to reauthorize the Japanese American Confinement Site program, which helps preserve and educate Americans about one of the darkest times in our nation's history. We will also hear about bills that will honor the women who worked on the home front during World War II. One bill would expand the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historic Park in California and another would establish a memorial to those women here in Washington, DC. Other bills deal with boundary adjustments at existing park units. My bill, S.4114, would allow a parcel of land in the Village of Town Hill to be used for affordable workforce housing.

In 1986, the Acadia Boundary Act was passed. That was a piece of legislation that fixed Acadia National Park's boundaries as well as adding and subtracting various pieces of land. At that time, the piece of land in question in this bill was to be transferred to Bar Harbor for the purposes of a trash transfer station, but it turns out this wasn't the place for that station, and the legislation was so specific, it could not be transferred for any other purpose, so the parcel has languished for the past 36 years. This bill now replaces this use with an affordable workforce housing use and allows the Park Service to hang onto 15 acres for its own housing needs. As we have discussed here in the Subcommittee before, access to affordable workforce housing is a problem across the Park Service, and I hope we can move this bill and others forward to start to make a dent in this problem for Park Service employees across the country, but in this particular bill, for those working at Acadia National Park.

Another bill we will consider is sponsored by my colleague from Maine, Senator Collins, and would encourage the use of native plant species within the Park Service. Using native plants will help to preserve biodiversity and increase the benefits that local flora provide to our wildlife, human health, and the environment, and will also help prevent the future spread of invasive species. I look forward to learning more about this legislation today.

Finally, I would like to mention a bill introduced by Ranking Member—no, by Co-Chair Daines—the Gateway Community and Recreation Enhancement Act. I was honored to work with him on this bill, which will help provide support to our gateway communities that are so vital to the success of our national parks across the country. The bill will also help provide additional vital data to visitors that will help improve their experience, telling them when an attraction is especially busy, when might be a better time of the day to visit, or suggesting a nearby alternative attraction that is not as busy at that time.

Last week, the full Energy and Natural Resources Committee included a number of provisions from this gateway communities bill in the larger Outdoor Recreation Act, and I want to thank Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso for that inclusion.

Now, for a procedural note on today's hearing, I will first recognize Co-Chair Daines for his opening statement. Following his remarks, I will recognize members of the Committee who wish to make a statement about their bills on the agenda, followed by any members not on the Committee seeking to make a statement. After that, I will introduce our witness before we get to questions. Also, without objection, all members may submit letters of support or opposition to any additional materials regarding measures on today's agenda.

Now, Senator Daines, you are recognized for your opening statement.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. STEVE DAINES,
U.S. SENATOR FROM MONTANA**

Senator DAINES. Chairman King, thank you.

In today's hearing we are going to examine 20 mostly parochial parks and lands bills from Hawaii to Maine and literally about everywhere in between. Today's agenda spans the country. We also have the bipartisan Senate bill 3551, the Gateway Community Recreation and Enhancement Act, which Chairman King and myself introduced earlier this year. This important bill gives the tools and the direction of the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service to work with gateway communities to address the housing shortages and increased visitation infrastructure demands. It will also give public land managers the tools that they need to manage visitation by coordinating with state, local, and federal recreation sites as well as private entities to encourage visitation to lesser-known recreation opportunities. Our national parks and our gateway communities are being loved to death. By ensuring that employees and locals have adequate housing and encouraging visitors to visit lesser-known sites, we can support our rural communities, protect our parks from becoming overburdened, and ensure places

like Montana continue to be accessible to all and not just the rich and the famous.

The Chairman and I worked hard to include this language in last week's legislative markup where we were successfully able to include it in the bipartisan Outdoor Recreation Act. I hope that we can all work together to get this signed into law soon so we can provide the much-needed relief to our public lands and gateway communities. I am also excited to hear more about Chairman King's housing bill. While Montana and Maine may be far apart on the map, we share many of the same challenges. This includes the needs for affordable housing for park employees, the teachers, the hospitality workers, guides and outfitters, emergency responders, and families that serve the communities and visitors in our national parks. The folks in Gardiner, Montana, outside of Yellowstone National Park, share many of the same concerns as those in Bar Harbor, Maine, outside of Acadia. This is why we worked so closely together on our gateway communities bill and why I hope we hear more about Senate bill 4114.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I turn it back over to you, and look forward to the testimony from our witness.

Senator KING. Thank you, Senator Daines.

Senator Hirono, do you have a statement?

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO,
U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII**

Senator HIRONO. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to briefly discuss the importance of H.R. 1931, the Japanese American Confinement Education Act, of which I am a co-sponsor. Due to unsubstantiated fear of Japanese Americans in 1942, President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which led to the unjust and unconstitutional internment of Japanese people in the United States. This horrific treatment of Japanese people during World War II simply because of their ancestry is a stain on our country's history. In 2006, Congress recognized our nation's need to tell the painful story by passing the Preservation of Japanese American Confinement Sites Act. This law established the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program, to be administered by the National Park Service. Since then, the National Park Service has awarded these grants to non-profits, educational institutions, state, local, tribal governments, and other public entities working to preserve Japanese American incarceration sites and their history.

Over \$1.4 million of this funding has gone to entities in Hawaii, like the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii and the University of Hawaii. This funding has supported a range of projects, including working with teachers in Hawaii schools to develop curriculum on Japanese American incarceration and history as well as projects to conduct interviews with 15 individuals who left their homes in Hawaii to join their fathers who were detained in the Jerome Relocation Center in Arkansas. In 2006, the bill authorized \$38 million for the grant program with a sunset clause saying the program would end two years after all funds were disbursed. Those funds are expected to run out this year. That is why it is important that we pass H.R. 1931 to make sure that the program continues. May

is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, making this an especially fitting time to consider this bill.

H.R. 1931 increases the authorization of appropriations for the program from \$38 million to \$80 million to allow grants to continue beyond this year. It also carves out a portion of the program to provide education grants specifically to Japanese American organizations, with priority given to those with fewer than 100 employees. As you can imagine, many of the organizations in this field do not have hundreds of employees, so this is an important aspect of what we are doing, and this would allow groups like the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii to digitize the many physical records currently at the National Archives to provide greater access and connect families with these stories to learn more about their history. We have come a long way since 1942, and a lot of important work has been done with the grants since the 2006 bill was passed. However, the last two years, during COVID, have shown that we still have a long way to go when it comes to treating everyone in this country with dignity and respect. As the COVID-19 pandemic swept the world, we again saw the detrimental consequences of unfounded fear and misinformation as discrimination and racism incited a disturbing rise in violence and hate crimes against Asians and Pacific Islanders in communities across the country. That is why we must pass this bill to ensure that we continue educating the public about Japanese American incarceration and work to ensure this painful part of U.S. history is never repeated. And of course, the lesson is that minority groups, be they be Japanese Americans, Muslims, or any other minority group, should not be targeted for discrimination and discriminatory treatment in our country.

So, Mr. Caldwell, I hope that you will talk a little bit about the historic demand you have seen for these grant funds, and if you expect interest in this program to continue well into the future.

Thank you for the hearing. I have a conflict, so, Mr. Chairman, I know you understand. Thank you for giving me the time to put my statement into the record.

Senator KING. Thank you, Senator.

I am well aware of the conflicts. I was just in another hearing and suggested to the technology people there that AI might be applied to Senate scheduling so that we do not have these continuous conflicts.

Michael Caldwell is the Associate Director for Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands at the National Park Service. Mr. Caldwell, you have appeared before this Committee before. Welcome back. Thank you for being here today, and we look forward to your thoughts. Thank you.

OPENING STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. CALDWELL. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on the 20 bills on today's agenda.

I would like to submit our full statements on each of the bills for the record and summarize the Department's views.

The Department supports the following 15 bills:

H.R. 268, which would provide for the boundary of the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Park to be adjusted and authorize the donation of land for addition to the park.

H.R. 1931, which would amend the legislation authorizing the Japanese American Confinement Site Program to provide competitive grants for the promotion of Japanese American confinement education.

S. 557, which would establish a pilot program for native plant species.

S. 1344, which would redesignate the Pullman National Monument in the State of Illinois as the Pullman National Historical Park.

S. 1718, which would amend the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park Establishment Act of 2000 to provide for additional areas to be added to the park.

S. 1814/H.R. 3531, which would authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work.

S. 2367, which would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land in Frederick County, Maryland, for the Historic Preservation Training Center of the National Park Service.

S. 3185, which would amend the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Improvement Act to extend the exception to the closure of certain roads within the recreation area for local businesses.

S. 3240, which would waive the application fee for special use permits for veterans' special events at war memorials.

S. 3334, which would extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work to honor enslaved and free black persons who served in the American Revolution.

S. 3338, which would revise the boundary of the Saint Genevieve National Historical Park in the State of Missouri.

S. 3519, which would amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail and for other purposes.

S. 3667, which would establish the United States African American Burial Grounds Preservation Program.

S. 3685, which would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the John P. Parker House.

And S. 4114, which would amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing and for other purposes.

The reasons for our support of these bills are explained in our full statements. For several of the bills we are requesting amendments and we would be happy to work with the Committee on drafting them.

The Department supports the intent of S. 3551, the Gateway Community and Recreation Enhancement Act. The Department is supportive of Congressional efforts to provide the various federal land management agencies under its jurisdiction with greater authority and flexibility to respond to changing needs and higher visi-

tation. We appreciate the Committee's work to take action on these issues and would welcome the opportunity to continue working with the bill sponsors and the Committee in a collaborative manner to advance these goals.

Regarding S. 2964, which would clarify the status of the North Country, Ice Age, and New England Scenic Trails as units of the National Park System, the Department does not object to the goal of the bill, which is to treat all six national scenic trails administered by the National Park Service as units of the National Park System. We would recommend amending the bill to statutorily designate all six national scenic trails as units.

S. 3141 would establish the New Philadelphia National Historic Site in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System. The Department would note that a special resource study is currently in progress for New Philadelphia. If the Committee decides to act on this legislation, we would appreciate the opportunity to work with you on amendments and a legislative map.

The Department opposes S. 3307, which would modify the boundary of the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in the State of Missouri to include approximately 624 acres that include the site of the Battles of Newtonia. An earlier special resource study found that the battlefields did not meet the criteria for significance or suitability.

Finally, the Department has no position on S. 4121, which would designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial. The memorial would be located at a site that is not under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, and this bill does not provide for any management or funding by the National Park Service.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Caldwell follows:]

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING H.R. 268, A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE BOUNDARY OF THE PALO ALTO BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK TO BE ADJUSTED, TO AUTHORIZE THE DONATION OF LAND TO THE UNITED STATES FOR ADDITION TO THAT HISTORIC PARK, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on H.R. 268, a bill to provide for the boundary of the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park to be adjusted, to authorize the donation of land to the United States for addition to that historic park, and for other purposes.

The Department supports H.R. 268.

H.R. 268, as passed by the House of Representatives on March 15, 2022, would authorize the addition of approximately 166 acres of land where Fort Brown stood to the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park pending a boundary study and a determination that accepting the additional lands would be feasible and appropriate. The land, which is owned and administered by the International Boundary and Water Commission, holds the archeological remains of Fort Brown, including the standing ruins of the Fort Brown earthworks, associated fortifications, and the cultural landscape of the Fort Brown siege of 1846. The fort, originally known as Fort Texas, was established when U.S. soldiers led by General Zachary Taylor arrived on the banks of the Rio Grande to establish the river as the southern boundary of Texas. General Taylor, who would become the 12th President of the United States in 1849, re-named the fort in honor of Major Jacob Brown, who was killed during the siege.

A portion of the Fort Brown site was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960. It is one of three battlefield sites in the Brownsville area considered key to telling the story of the 1846-48 United States war with Mexico. The other two sites are currently included within Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park.

Fort Brown became the flashpoint in a dispute over the boundary between the two nations. As events unfolded, the Mexican Army laid siege to the fort in early May of 1846. The site remained active following the war with Mexico and played a role in every U.S. war through World War II. The U.S. Army closed Fort Brown in 1944 and turned the 166-acre area over to the International Boundary and Water Commission in 1949 for flood control purposes.

The boundary study authorized by the bill will look at the feasibility of administering the Fort Brown site as part of Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park. As part of this study, the National Park Service will collect information about the quality of resources in the study area, evaluate the potential for visitor enjoyment and efficient management, and considers the

feasibility and appropriateness of different management options for the site. The study will also evaluate the views of and impacts on local communities, the adequacy of other alternatives for management and resource protection, and other factors.

On November 9, 2021, the Department testified on H.R. 268 in a hearing before the House Natural Resource Committee's Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. At that time, the Department testified that the National Park Service had not studied the appropriateness and feasibility of adding Fort Brown to the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park. The Department recommended amending the bill to include authorization for a boundary study, and to authorize the Secretary to accept the property pending a favorable outcome to that boundary study. H.R. 268 was amended to incorporate those recommendations and was then passed by the House.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING H.R. 1931, A BILL TO PROVIDE COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR THE PROMOTION OF JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT EDUCATION AS A MEANS TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, USE AND ABUSE OF POWER, AND TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL TOLERANCE TOWARD JAPANESE AMERICANS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to provide the Department of the Interior's views on H.R. 1931, a bill to provide competitive grants for the promotion of Japanese American confinement education as a means to understand the importance of democratic principles, use and abuse of power, and to raise awareness about the importance of cultural tolerance toward Japanese Americans, and for other purposes.

The Department supports H.R. 1931 and would like to continue to work with the Committee on any technical changes necessary to ensure the success of the program.

H.R. 1931, as passed by the House, would amend P.L. 109-441 to authorize a new program within the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) grant program, which supports the preservation of U.S. confinement sites that were used to detain Japanese Americans during World War II, to provide grants to Japanese American nonprofits to educate individuals about the historical significance of these events. The bill would also increase the authorization of appropriations for the JACS program.

On May 27, 2021, we testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands on an earlier version of this bill. After providing this testimony, H.R. 1931 was amended to recognize that many of the objectives being proposed were already being met by the existing JACS grant program. Consequently, H.R. 1931 as passed by the House now proposes amendments to the existing legislation rather than starting a new program.

We would like to express our appreciation for this recognition of the merits of the existing grant program and support the current direction of the amendments to PL 109-441. We welcome the ongoing opportunity to work with the Committee to discuss the details of how this added focus on education will be administered along with the existing grant program. We are dedicated to our ongoing efforts to preserve significant cultural and natural resources and interpret the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants during World War II.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

**DRAFT STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING
S. 557, THE NATIVE PLANT SPECIES PILOT PROGRAM ACT OF 2021.**

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 557, the Native Plant Species Pilot Program Act of 2021.

The Department supports S. 557.

S. 557, the Native Plant Species Pilot Program Act of 2021, would create a pilot program to utilize native plant materials in projects within National Park Service units to protect native plant biodiversity. The bill complements and enhances how the National Park Service utilizes native plant materials for revegetation on projects throughout the Service.

S. 557 is aligned with the National Park Service mission and NPS 2006 Management Policies. National Park System units acquire native plant materials through a variety of mechanisms including greenhouses, seed storage capacity, native plant nurseries within park units, and by working with partners to obtain native plant materials for restoration activities. For example, at Flight 93 National Memorial, on a former surface mine restoration project, more than 4,200 volunteers have planted 41 varieties of native trees and shrubs across 197 acres. At Devil's Tower National Monument, park staff and contractors used locally collected native plant seed to restore 3 acres of disturbed land at the park's visitor center and along the popular Power Trail to Devil's Tower. At Pea Ridge National Military Park, National Park Service staff and contractors collected native seed from remnant prairies and planted them in agricultural fields outside the park. The seed and plants will be harvested and used to restore 30 acres of Civil War battlefield, including an obliterated highway, existing roadways, and areas near the park's Visitor Center.

Finally, the NPS would like to work with the sponsor and the Committee to address technical edits regarding the implementation of the bill.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 1344, A BILL TO REDESIGNATE THE PULLMAN NATIONAL MONUMENT IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS AS THE PULLMAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 1344, a bill to redesignate the Pullman National Monument in the State of Illinois as the Pullman National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 1344 with amendments described later in this statement.

S. 1344 would redesignate Pullman National Monument in Chicago, Illinois, as Pullman National Historical Park, as well as provide a statutory basis for this unit. In the National Park Service's (NPS) standard nomenclature, the term "national historical park" denotes a unit containing multiple historic resources, as is the case with the Pullman National Monument. The bill also provides for some specific management and cooperative agreement authorities that would be new to the unit.

Pullman National Monument was established in 2015 by Presidential Proclamation 9233 to preserve and interpret resources that are part of the Pullman Historic District. These resources reflect the industrial and labor history associated with the Pullman Company, including the rise and role of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the history of urban planning and design, of which the planned company town of Pullman is a nationally significant example.

The Pullman Historic District typifies many of the economic, social, and design currents running through American life in the late 19th and early 20th century. Industrialist George Mortimer Pullman built the model town to house workers at his luxury rail car factories. Although his goal was to cure the social ills of the day, the tight control he exercised over his workers helped spark one of the nation's most widespread and consequential labor strikes. The remaining structures of the Pullman Palace Car Company, workers' housing, and community buildings that make up the Pullman Historic District are a testament to the evolution of American industry, the rise of unions and the labor movement, the lasting strength of urban design, and the remarkable journey of the Pullman porters toward the civil rights movement of the 20th century.

The boundaries of Pullman National Monument, which encompass approximately 203 acres, include about two-thirds of the Pullman Historic District. Currently, the NPS owns and manages only the historic Administration Clock Tower Building, which served as the hub of the former Pullman factory. Within the monument boundary is the Pullman State Historic Site, owned and operated by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, which includes the grounds around the

Administration Clock Tower Building, the North Factory Wing, the Rear Erecting Shop, and the four-story Hotel Florence. Other governmental and private organizations also contribute to the preservation and interpretation of the Pullman neighborhood's history. The NPS coordinates closely with these entities to ensure that the history of this area is preserved and made available to the public.

While the Department supports the redesignation of the Pullman National Monument as a national historical park, we recommend that S. 1344 be amended to reflect the joint planning effort already underway by the NPS and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for Pullman National Monument and State Historic Site instead of a General Management Plan. We also recommend that the language regarding cooperative agreements and the use of funds be revised to conform with the standard language used in legislation for units of the National Park System. We would be happy to work with the sponsor and the Committee on proposed amendment language.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 1718, A BILL TO AMEND THE ROSIE THE RIVETER/WORLD WAR II HOME FRONT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 2000 TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL AREAS TO BE ADDED TO THE PARK, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chair King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to provide the Department of the Interior's views on S. 1718, a bill to amend the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park Establishment Act of 2000 to provide for additional areas to be added to the park, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 1718.

S. 1718 would include the Nystrom Elementary School in Richmond, California as part of Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park and would allow for other areas to be added to the park if deemed appropriate by the Secretary. The bill directs the Secretary to update the park map to reflect new additions within 180 days after areas are added to the park. S. 1718 also authorizes the Secretary to acquire lands, waters, and improvements within the boundaries of the National Historical Park. These acquisitions may be made by donation, purchase, exchange or transfer, except for lands owned by the State of California and its subdivisions, which may only be acquired by donation.

Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park was established in 2000 to recognize the important wartime contributions of workers and ordinary citizens, including women and people of color, who saved and sacrificed on the home front. The park operates as a partnership park and cooperates with the owners of related historic properties to preserve and interpret the WWII home front story.

Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park's enabling legislation (16 U.S.C. 410ggg) directed the National Park Service to determine whether there are additional representative sites that should be added to the park. The park's 2009 General Management Plan established guidelines for bringing additional properties into the park. These criteria include that a property: be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; have a direct connection to the World War II home front themes in Richmond, California; and relate to the park's purpose, significance, and interpretive themes. The Nystrom Elementary School meets these guidelines for addition.

The Nystrom Elementary School was built during World War II to accommodate the large influx of families that relocated to Richmond, California to work at the Kaiser Shipyards. The school

was constructed as part of a planned neighborhood development that includes the Maritime Child Development Center, which is already part of the park.

The West Contra Costa Unified School District owns and operates the Nystrom Elementary School and has followed the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation in the rehabilitation of the school. The City of Richmond, a park partner and owner of several other park sites, has shown support for the inclusion of the Nystrom Elementary School. Other sites, as deemed appropriate by the Secretary, would be evaluated for potential inclusion as part of Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historic Park based on the guidelines developed in the park's General Management Plan.

We recommend a technical amendment to the bill to update the short title to reflect the correct name of the park unit.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 1814, A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE WOMEN WHO WORKED ON THE HOME FRONT FOUNDATION TO ESTABLISH A COMMEMORATIVE WORK IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND ITS ENVIRONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the Department of the Interior on S. 1814, a bill to authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs.

The Department supports this legislation.

S. 1814 would authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in Washington, D.C. and its environs to commemorate the “commitment and service represented by women who worked on the home front during World War II.” The bill requires compliance with the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. Chapter 89) (CWA) and prohibits Federal funds from being used to establish the memorial.

“Women Who Worked on the Home Front” refers to the countless American women who stepped up to support their nation during America’s involvement in World War II. Between 1941 and 1945, the female portion of the U.S. workforce increased from 27 percent to nearly 37 percent. More than 10,000 women worked as code breakers during WWII and over 1,100 female volunteers flew nearly every type of military aircraft as part of the Women Airforce Service Pilots program. Women were trained to fly military aircraft so male pilots could leave for combat duty overseas. Other jobs women filled, often for the first time, included keel welder, telegraph operator, steam hammer operator, radio engineer, electrical engineer, crane operator, flash welder, ship fitter, tinsmith, pipe fitter, surveyor, draftsman, and so much more.

In February 2020, the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission (Commission) reviewed an identical version of this legislation that was introduced in the 116th Congress. The CWA established the Commission and requires Congress to solicit its views when considering legislation authorizing commemorative works within the District of Columbia and its environs. During its review, the Commission agreed that the compelling story of American women’s contributions and changing status during World War II is of lasting national significance and that this proposed commemoration would enrich and diversify the portfolio of commemorative works in Washington, DC. The Commission also recommended keeping the focus of the commemorative work on the themes of “commitment” and “service,” rather than on the individuals themselves, in accordance with Section §8903(c) of the CWA.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 2367, A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO ACQUIRE LAND IN FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRAINING CENTER OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 2367, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land in Frederick County, Maryland, for the Historic Preservation Training Center of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 2367, which would provide a permanent site for the Historic Preservation Training Center.

S. 2367 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to further develop the Historic Preservation Training Center (Center) in accordance with section 305306 of title 54, United States Code, by acquiring land not to exceed 20 acres in Frederick County, Maryland, to support the physical space, preservation operations, training program initiatives, and workforce development capacity of the Center.

The Center, originally established in 1977 in Williamsport, Maryland, supports the National Park Service (NPS) through historic preservation projects and teaches traditional trade skills and historic preservation techniques through hands-on experiential learning opportunities. As carpenters, masons, woodcrafters, metalsmiths, and other traditional trade masters retire, the Center provides apprenticeship programs to engage youth and veterans so that these important skills are passed down and not lost.

Over the last five years, the Center's Traditional Trades Apprenticeship Program has engaged over 170 youth and veteran interns in completing preservation and deferred maintenance projects across the NPS. Veterans make up over 25% of the interns, with over half of all participants being placed in NPS positions after completing their training. The Center also runs the National Career Academy for Facility Maintenance and supports over 2,500 current NPS employees in providing training for key occupations such as Water/Wastewater Treatment Operators and Heavy Equipment Operators.

The Center staff preserves some of our most treasured historic resources, from mooring quays at Pearl Harbor National Memorial and log cabins on the Blue Ridge Parkway, to stone repairs at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Since 1980, the Center staff and interns have completed approximately 1,500 projects in over 200 parks Service-wide. The teams worked on nearly 330 buildings and structures dating from the 18th through the 21st century, with the oldest being 312 years old.

While in Williamsport, the buildings utilized by the Center experienced a series of floods. In 1991, Congress directed the NPS to identify a permanent home. An NPS study team surveyed available sites and recommended Frederick, Maryland, and possibly Monocacy National Battlefield.

In 1995, the Center administrative offices were relocated to the Gambrill House at Monocacy National Battlefield. In 1997, the workshop portion of the facilities moved to a leased space at the Jenkins Cannery factory and warehouse, owned by the City of Frederick. The current lease with the City expires in September 2023, and the space can no longer accommodate the needs of the Center. We greatly appreciate the support of the City and consider them a valued partner. This legislation would support a continued partnership with the City, enable the NPS to attain an adequately sized space for operations, and establish a permanent home for this essential facility.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 2964, A BILL TO CLARIFY THE STATUS OF THE NORTH COUNTRY, ICE AGE, AND NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS AS UNITS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 2964, a bill to clarify the status of the North Country, Ice Age, and New England National Scenic Trails as units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The Department does not object to the goal of S. 2964, which is to treat all six national scenic trails administered by the National Park Service as units of the National Park System. We recommend amending S. 2964 as described in this statement.

S. 2964 would amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to administer the North Country, Ice Age, and New England National Scenic Trails as units of the National Park System. Currently, the Act is silent regarding unit status for each of these trails and for all the other long-distance trails designated as national scenic trails.

Of the 23 congressionally designated long-distance trails administered or co-administered by the National Park Service, 6 are national scenic trails and 17 are national historic trails. Of the six national scenic trails, three are currently counted as units of the National Park System. The choice to count these trails as units was an administrative decision reflecting the extent of actual or potential Federal land ownership and the National Park Service's role in administering these trails.

In addition to the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, which was authorized in 1968 and administratively listed as a unit of the National Park System in 1972, the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail and the Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail, both authorized in 1983, were administratively listed as units in the mid-1980 's. Amending the National Trails System Act to provide that the North Country (authorized 1980), Ice Age (authorized 1980), and New England (authorized 2009) National Scenic Trails shall be administered as units of the National Park System would provide consistency in the status of all six national scenic trails.

In order to avoid confusion as to the status of three national scenic trails (the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, and the Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail) that are currently administratively counted as units, we recommend that S. 2964 be amended so that it also statutorily recognizes the unit status of those three trails. In addition, we recommend that the bill also be worded to clarify that lands within these trails that are not administered by NPS are not subject to laws applicable to the National Park System. We

would be pleased to work with the Committee on appropriate language for that purpose. We would also appreciate the opportunity to work with the bill sponsor and trail partners to discuss the practical aspects of implementation.

Regardless of whether trails are counted as units or not, all of the land actually administered by the National Park Service within trails is, by law, part of the National Park System. Conferring unit status does not change the management of that trail or affect any existing agreements, easements, or other legal instruments in effect for the administration of the trail. The designation of a trail as a unit has no impact upon the cost of operating the trail. The National Park Service has taken steps to ensure that trails have equal access to sources of funding and that the public is informed about national scenic and historic trails on the National Park Service website and in other forms of media. We have also worked with the National Park Foundation, our congressionally authorized philanthropic partner, to allow the long-distance trails to be considered for grant funding.

The National Park Service values the unique relationships and partnerships that have been developed with communities along national trails. We will continue to work with our trail partners to improve communications and address any of the concerns that are raised regarding equal treatment for trails.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 3141, A BILL TO ESTABLISH THE NEW PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS AS A UNIT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3141, to establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The Department recognizes the important contribution to America's story that is represented by the site known as New Philadelphia – the first town planned and legally registered by a free African American before the Civil War. Congress authorized a special resource study of the archeological site and surrounding land of the New Philadelphia Townsite as part of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2015 (P.L. 113-291), enacted on December 19, 2014. The study, which is in progress will consider whether the site meets the Congressionally established criteria for inclusion in the National Park System, including national significance, suitability, feasibility, and the need for NPS Management.

S. 3141 would establish the New Philadelphia site as a unit of the National Park System to coordinate the preservation, protection, and interpretation efforts there by different entities and to coordinate appropriate management options. The bill would establish a boundary for the park, authorize acquisition of land and structures for the park, provide for preservation assistance to public and non-public entities within the boundaries of the park and at sites in close proximity to the park, and require a management plan to be completed within three years after funds are made available for that purpose.

Originally established in 1836 by Frank McWorter, New Philadelphia was the first town planned and legally registered by a free African American before the Civil War. McWorter, once an enslaved man, bought his freedom and the freedom of 15 family members by mining for crude niter in Kentucky caves and processing the mined material into saltpeter, by hiring his time to other settlers, and by selling lots in New Philadelphia, the town he founded. The rural community situated near the Mississippi and Illinois rivers flourished at first, but later fell in decline when the railroad bypassed the community in 1869; it was eventually dissolved in 1885. The New Philadelphia Historic District consists of an archeological site within the 40-acre original townsite. The New Philadelphia site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, designated as a National Historic Landmark and included in the National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

Several partner organizations and individuals have been working together for years to protect and interpret the New Philadelphia site and conduct archeological and historical research. Most

active among them are nonprofit organizations including the New Philadelphia Association, the Archaeological Conservancy, the Philadelphia Land Trust, and the faculty and students from the Universities of Illinois and Maryland. They manage a website and social media, an informational kiosk, and an “augmented reality” cell phone tour of the history of the site.

If the Committee decides to act on this legislation, we would like to work with you on amendments and a legislative map.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

**STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK
PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING
S. 3185, A BILL TO AMEND THE DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL
RECREATION AREA IMPROVEMENT ACT TO EXTEND THE EXCEPTION TO
THE CLOSURE OF CERTAIN ROADS WITHIN THE RECREATION AREA FOR
LOCAL BUSINESSES.**

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3185, a bill to amend the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Improvement Act to extend the exception to the closure of certain roads within the recreation area for local businesses, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 3185.

S. 3185 would amend Section 4(b) of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Improvement Act (P.L. 109-156 as amended) to extend the use of certain roads within Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area through September 30, 2026. The bill would extend the authority of the National Park Service (NPS) to allow commercial vehicles serving local businesses to use Federal Road 209 through a permit and fee program. The current authority expires on September 30, 2022.

The extension would authorize the park to continue issuing permits to commercial vehicle operators owned by businesses located in or adjacent to the recreation area or necessary to provide services to businesses or persons located in or adjacent to the recreation area enabling them to travel through the park. Route 209 provides a safe, efficient and cost-effective transportation route for these adjacent communities. This permitted access contributes to the economic vitality, public safety and quality of life of the park's adjacent communities.

Permits are not required for local school buses, and fire, ambulance, and other safety or emergency vehicles.

Finally, the Department would like to work with the sponsor and Committee on a technical edit to the public law reference in the bill.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, REGARDING S. 3240, A BILL TO WAIVE THE APPLICATION FEE FOR SPECIAL USE PERMITS FOR VETERANS' SPECIAL EVENTS AT WAR MEMORIALS ON LAND ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND ITS ENVIRONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3240, to waive the application fee for any special use permit for veterans' special events at war memorials on Federal land administered by the National Park Service in the District of Columbia and its environs.

The Department supports S. 3240.

The Department welcomes opportunities to commemorate and honor the brave men and women in uniform and their families who sacrifice so much in service to our country, and we are proud to host veterans, veterans' groups, and their families for commemorations and events recognizing that service and sacrifice. S.3240 codifies the National Park Service's longstanding practice of not requiring application fees for special use permits for veterans' special events at war memorials.

The National Park Service generally waives application fees for special use permits for special events commemorating veterans at war memorials. Park Superintendents, who administer the permits, have the authority to waive a special use permit application fee if the proposed use will promote the mission of the National Park Service; promote public health, safety, or welfare; or if charging and collecting the fees is not cost effective. Once a permit is issued, the National Park Service may charge additional fees or recover costs associated with the permitted activity.

S. 3240, which addresses only application fees, would codify the requirement of a waiver of the application fee for any special use permit solely for a veteran's special event at war memorials on Federal land administered by the National Park Service in the District of Columbia and its environs. The National Park Service retains the ability to collect additional cost recovery or fees related to permitted activities.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you and other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 3307, A BILL TO MODIFY THE BOUNDARY OF THE WILSON'S CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3307, a bill to modify the boundary of the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in the State of Missouri, and for other purposes.

The Department opposes S. 3307.

The bill would amend the boundary of the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield to include approximately 624 acres that include the site of the first and second battles of Newtonia. The precise location of the boundary revision is identified on a map numbered 410/117,379 and dated September 2021.

Pursuant to public law 110-229, a special resource study was conducted to evaluate if the Newtonia Battlefields in Newtonia, Missouri, met the criteria for addition to the National Park System as an independent unit of the system or as an addition to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in Republic, Missouri. The study found that the Newtonia Battlefields did not meet the significance or suitability criteria as an independent unit of the system. In evaluating the boundary of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, the study found that the Newtonia Battlefields are only tangentially related to the existing unit and the boundary modification would not protect significant resources, enhance opportunities for public enjoyment, address operational and management issues for the existing park site, or protect critical park resources. Given these findings, the Department does not support modifying the boundary of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield as described in S. 3307.

Currently the Newtonia Battlefields Protection Association (Association) owns and maintains 25 plus acres of the Battlefields. This includes the Ritchey Mansion and the "Old Newtonia Cemetery" or the "Civil War Cemetery" as it is locally known, with an unspecified number of unmarked graves. Nine markers have been identified as belonging to Union soldiers, including that of Captain Robert F. Christian, who was killed during the Second Battle of Newtonia.

The Association was instrumental in having the sites of the 1862 and the 1864 battles listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Ritchey Mansion was previously listed on the National Register, and the Association revised that application after they purchased the Mansion in 2002 to include the battlefields. The Association applied for and received multiple grants from the American Battlefield Protection Program of the National Park Service to learn more

about the site and improve its management, and can continue to compete for additional grants in the future if desired.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 3334, THE NATIONAL LIBERTY MEMORIAL PRESERVATION ACT, A BILL TO EXTEND THE AUTHORITY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMEMORATIVE WORK TO HONOR ENSLAVED AND FREE BLACK PERSONS WHO SERVED IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to provide the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3334, the National Liberty Memorial Preservation Act.

The Department supports this legislation.

S. 3334 extends the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work to honor enslaved and free Black persons who served in the American Revolution. The National Liberty Memorial was originally authorized on January 2, 2013 (P.L. 112-239). On September 26, 2014 (P.L. 113-176), the Memorial was authorized to be established in Area I, as defined by the Commemorative Works Act (Act) (P.L. 99-652; 40 U.S.C. Ch. 89). The authority, as provided for in the Commemorative Works Act, was for a seven-year period, which expired on September 26, 2021.

The Department believes that this commemorative subject rises to the level of preeminent and lasting historical significance to the United States. The bravery and dedication demonstrated by both freemen and slaves during the American Revolution are well documented but not well known. Soldiers such as Salem Poor, Primus Hall, and Prince Whipple – George Washington's bodyguard – were commended for their valor and selflessness in the midst of battle. Many more Black soldiers fought in both segregated and integrated units; historians estimate that between 10 and 15 percent of the Continental Army was composed of Black free and enslaved persons. At the end of the war, some enslaved soldiers earned their freedom, but many who had fought in place of their white owners, returned to spend the remainder of their lives in slavery.

These invaluable contributions to America's independence are worthy of widespread recognition and commemoration. The Department notes that since the initial authorization in 2013, the site selection has not yet been completed. We understand that raising considerable funding while working through the site selection, design, and construction process is time consuming and look forward to continued progress. Due to the significance of the commemorative subject, the Department supports this legislation and agrees that an extension of seven additional years would be appropriate.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 3338, A BILL TO REVISE THE BOUNDARY OF STE. GENEVIEVE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3338, a bill to revise the boundary of the Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in the state of Missouri, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 3338.

S. 3338 would amend the legislation authorizing the establishment of Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park to authorize the acquisition of the property currently owned by the City of Ste. Genevieve and its use as the park's Visitor Center.

Congress authorized the establishment of Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in March 2018 as a unit of the National Park System to preserve, protect, and interpret the themes of French Settlement, vernacular architecture, and community form and farming on the frontier. The establishment was subject to the Secretary of the Interior's determination that sufficient land had been acquired to constitute a manageable unit and written agreements had been entered into providing that land owned by the State of Missouri, the city of Ste. Genevieve, or another entity within the National Historic District be managed consistent with the purposes of the Act. Those requirements have been met, and the Secretary established Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in October 2020.

The establishing legislation authorizes the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire any land or interest in land located within the boundary of the National Historical Park or any property within the Ste. Genevieve National Historic District National Historic Landmark that was identified as nationally significant in the Ste. Genevieve Final Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment of May 2016. The city of Ste. Genevieve and the NPS entered into a General Agreement that allows the NPS to use the city-owned Welcome Center as a visitor center for the park. The city wishes to donate that property, approximately 1 acre in size, to the NPS. However, the current land acquisition authorities in the statute would not apply as the property was not identified as nationally significant in the Special Resource Study. Rather, it is a more modern property, better suited for the functions of the visitor center and administrative purposes. This legislation would authorize the NPS to add this property to the Historical Park boundary and accept the donation of land and improvements.

The NPS appreciates that S. 3338 would provide the authority to acquire the welcome center for its visitor center. The NPS is mindful of future needs for administrative facilities to support the

park, and as such, would welcome additional conversations with the committee about these needs.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS CONCERNING S. 3519, A BILL TO AMEND THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM ACT TO DESIGNATE THE BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3519, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 3519.

S. 3519 would amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail.

In May 2018, the National Park Service transmitted the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail Special Resource Study to Congress. The study was completed pursuant to section 7209 of Public Law 111-11, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the significance, feasibility, suitability, and desirability of designating the routes associated with the Butterfield Overland Trail as a national historic trail.

The Butterfield Overland Mail Company, also known as the Butterfield Stage, held a United States Mail contract to transport mail and passengers over the “ox-bow route” between the eastern termini of St. Louis, Missouri and Memphis, Tennessee, and the western terminus of San Francisco, California. The postal route and stagecoach service operated from 1858 to 1861. With the advent of the Civil War, this southern mail route was discontinued and moved farther north. The route served a critical need at that time, tying disparate parts of the country together and providing an overland route that ran entirely within the continent’s borders.

The study area included approximately 3,553 miles of trail routes in eight states: Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. Given that 203 miles on the eastern end of the trail do not involve stage lines and approximately 58 miles of the routes are located in Mexico, a total of 3,292 miles were analyzed for this study.

The NPS conducted the study in accordance with the National Trails System Act (NTSA), and the routes were evaluated under the feasibility study provisions of the NTSA. In addition, to be eligible for designation as a national historic trail, the NTSA requires that a trail must be

nationally significant, have a documented route through maps or journals, and offer significant potential for public recreational use.

The NPS study determined that all of the requirements of the NTSA were met. The Butterfield Overland Trail was found to be nationally significant, and feasible, suitable, and desirable for addition to the National Trails System as a national historic trail. The NPS considered four alternatives and selected *Alternative 4: Designate a National Historic Trail but only with Nationally Significant Routes and Extensions*, due to the level of public support and resource protection. Comments received during the study process were overwhelmingly supportive of national trail designation.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 3551, A BILL TO REQUIRE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO CARRY OUT CERTAIN ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR GATEWAY COMMUNITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3551, a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to carry out certain activities to enhance recreational opportunities for gateway communities, and for other purposes.

The Department supports the intent of S. 3551.

S. 3551 would require the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, and the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a pilot program within two years of the date of enactment that would make available to the public data on visitation at: selected Federal land management units; other Federal, State, and local recreation sites near the selected units; and, other lesser known recreation sites near the selected units, in an effort to disperse visitation among recreation sites. In selecting the Federal land management units to participate in the pilot program, the Secretaries would be directed to solicit feedback from gateway communities.

The bill would require the Secretaries to select fifteen participating units managed by the Department of the Interior and five participating units managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Within five years, the Secretaries would be required to expand the program to include 80 additional sites, 50 of which would be managed by the Department of the Interior. The Secretaries would be authorized to use existing programs or products to carry out the requirements in this section.

S. 3551 would also direct the Secretaries to collaborate with State and local governments, Tribal governments, housing authorities, applicable trade associations, nonprofit organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to improve the understanding of the economic impacts of visitation on gateway communities and identify community needs, including housing shortages, demands on existing municipal infrastructure, and accommodation and management of sustainable visitation. The bill further directs the Secretaries to use existing authorities to seek to address the identified community needs by entering into agreements with gateway communities; offering corresponding leases, rights-of-way, or easements; entering into public-private partnerships; or providing financial assistance under existing programs.

The Department of the Interior appreciates the intent of this bill and is broadly supportive of congressional efforts to provide the various Federal land management agencies under its

jurisdiction with greater authorities and flexibility to respond to changing needs and evolving challenges in a time of increased visitation to our public lands. We appreciate the Committee's work to take action on these issues and would welcome the opportunity to continue working with the bill sponsors and the Committee in a collaborative manner to advance these goals.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, CONCERNING S. 3667, A BILL TO AMEND TITLE 54, UNITED STATES CODE, TO ESTABLISH WITHIN THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE THE U.S. AFRICAN-AMERICAN BURIAL GROUNDS PRESERVATION PROGRAM.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3667, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish within the National Park Service the U.S. African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Program.

The Department supports S. 3667.

S. 3667 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program within the National Park Service to be known as the "United States African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Program." The program would be authorized to make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, other Federal agencies, State, local, and Tribal governments; other public entities; educational institutions; historic preservation groups; and private nonprofit organizations for the identification, preservation, restoration, and interpretation of African American burial grounds. S. 3667 would also authorize three million dollars to be appropriated annually for each of the fiscal years from 2023 to 2027 for carrying out this grant program. Finally, S. 3667 stipulates that the bill does not authorize the Secretary to impose any conditions on the use or management of private property without the written consent of the owner, nor prohibit the Secretary from providing guidance to a private property owner on the management of their land as a condition of a grant.

African American burial grounds are part of the significant story of the role African Americans have played in the creation of the United States. These sacred spaces are often located in unknown and unmaintained locations, due to the painful and enduring legacy of slavery and segregation at the time of their creation, leaving the stories and the sites hidden.

In establishing the African American Burial Grounds Preservation Program, S. 3667 would assist in the identification, interpretation, preservation, research, and recordation of unmarked, previously abandoned, underserved, and other African American burial grounds. This program would increase public awareness of African American history, and these often overlooked and forgotten sites, while providing critical grant funding to support their long-term preservation.

The Department acknowledges that this program would need to be implemented with great care and consideration as many African American burial grounds were deliberately unmarked to facilitate a final resting place, particularly during both the period when slavery was legally

authorized in the United States and in ensuing decades when segregation limited the freedom of African Americans, even in choices related to how they commemorated their lives and deaths.

This program, as outlined in the bill, would need to be implemented in a respectful and collaborative manner to ensure already fragile and sacred resources do not become damaged or vandalized if and when their locations are publicly known. The Department and the National Park Service would be honored to support and respectfully implement the African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Program.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS CONCERNING S. 3685, A BILL TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL RESOURCES STUDY TO DETERMINE THE SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING THE JOHN P. PARKER HOUSE IN RIPLEY, OHIO AS A UNIT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 3685, the John P. Parker House Study Act.

The Department supports S. 3685. We would like to note that there are currently 23 previously authorized studies for potential units of the National Park System, potential new National Heritage Areas, and potential additions to the National Trails System that have not yet been transmitted to Congress.

S. 3685 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the John P. Parker House in Ripley, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park System.

The John P. Parker House and Museum, currently owned and managed by the John P. Parker Historical Society, is the restored home of abolitionist and entrepreneur John P. Parker (1827-1900). As a conductor on the Underground Railroad at the height of the abolitionist movement, John P. Parker helped runaway slaves from the South escape to freedom across the Ohio River. A freed slave himself, Parker was also a renowned African American entrepreneur and one of the first African Americans to receive patents for his inventions. During the Civil War, he made iron castings in his foundry for the Union, and he recruited soldiers for the two Ohio Civil War regiments of the United States Colored Troops. Parker worked with abolitionist John Rankin, and together they supported a robust abolitionist movement on the Ohio River. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 and designated a national historic landmark in 1997 for its connection to the abolitionist movement.

A reconnaissance survey completed in 2020, examined the national significance, suitability, feasibility, and level of National Park Service (NPS) management required. It determined that further evaluation through a congressionally authorized special resource study is warranted. The special resource study will further evaluate the site for inclusion in the National Park System; invite public involvement in the study process; and develop potential management alternatives for the John P. Parker House and Museum.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS CONCERNING S. 4114, A BILL TO AMEND PUBLIC LAW 99-420 TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND IN THE STATE OF MAINE FOR USE FOR AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE HOUSING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 4114, a bill to amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes.

The Department supports S. 4114 and recommends technical amendments.

In 1986, Congress directed the Secretary of the Interior to convey the land described in S. 4114 to the Town of Bar Harbor to be used as a solid waste transfer station (P.L. 99-420). A waste transfer station was never constructed on the parcel. S. 4114 would amend P.L. 99-420 to allow this land to be used for affordable workforce housing. The conveyance is subject to the limitation that the Secretary may retain not more than 15 acres of the Federal land identified as '4DBH' on the map, to be used by the Secretary to provide housing and administrative facilities for the use of and supporting the purposes of Acadia National Park (Park).

As is common at many National Park units, finding affordable housing in the Park's gateway communities on Mount Desert Island is a significant challenge for both the National Park Service (NPS) employees and their counterparts in the private sector. Much of the area's housing stock now consists of high-cost, short-term rentals, which has created a much more challenging housing situation than what existed just a few years ago for both permanent and seasonal employees. At the same time, the Park has experienced unprecedented growth in visitation, thereby intensifying the need for park employees to provide visitor services and ensure the protection of park resources.

NPS acquired an undeveloped 55.3-acre parcel in the village of Town Hill in Bar Harbor, Maine by donation in 1960. As mentioned above, in 1986, P.L. 99-420 established a permanent boundary for the park and directed the NPS to convey the parcel, which is outside the boundary of the park, without monetary consideration to the town of Bar Harbor for use by any town on Mount Desert Island as a solid waste transfer station. A centralized transfer station for Mount Desert Island is no longer needed. At the same time, the need for affordable workforce housing has become a universal concern for the towns on Mount Desert Island as it has for the NPS.

The provisions of this bill will enable the Park and local communities to facilitate the development of affordable year-round and seasonal workforce housing for eligible residents that would be of mutual benefit to NPS and Mount Desert Island. The proposal to repurpose this

parcel for the development of affordable workforce housing has been reviewed and was unanimously endorsed by the Bar Harbor Town Council, and the selectboards of the towns of Mount Desert, Southwest Harbor, and Tremont.

The Department recommends including further technical amendments to the underlying statute, P.L. 99-420, by deleting the words “by any town which so” that immediately precede “desires” as described in Section 1 of this bill and deleting the words “that requests the conveyance of the land” in the bill. In addition, the Department recommends inserting the words “to benefit the towns of Mount Desert Island” following the words “affordable workforce housing”. We would be happy to work with the sponsor and the Committee to develop these amendments.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

**STATEMENT OF MICHAEL A. CALDWELL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARK
PLANNING, FACILITIES, AND LANDS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS CONCERNING
S. 4121 TO DESIGNATE THE KOL ISRAEL FOUNDATION HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL IN BEDFORD HEIGHTS, OHIO, AS A NATIONAL MEMORIAL.**

MAY 11, 2022

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's views on S. 4121, a bill to designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a National Memorial.

The Department does not have a position on S. 4121, as the memorial would not be located at a site that is under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, and this bill does not provide for any management or funding by the National Park Service.

The Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial was dedicated on May 28, 1961, and is one of the first memorials related to the Holocaust constructed in the United States. It is a memorial to the 6 million Jews who died in the Holocaust and commemorates Holocaust victims with unknown resting places. Buried at the base of the monument are ashes and artifacts of Jewish martyrs killed by the Nazis from three concentration camps. Engraved on surrounding walls are the names of family members who perished during the Holocaust, as well as the names of departed survivors.

This legislation explicitly states that this Memorial is not a unit of the National Park System, and that designation should not be construed to require Federal funds to be expended for it.

Chairman King, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Subcommittee may have.

Senator KING. Thank you, Mr. Caldwell, and thank you again for being with us.

Co-Chair Daines and I have talked a number of times about the importance of the people that work at our national parks—the staff—and as you know, housing is an issue because often parks are situated in the middle of high-value real estate, and so housing is a problem. That is the bill that you so graciously offered your support to. S. 4114 conveys 40 acres from Acadia to the Town of Bar Harbor. And that in itself, the fact that the land will have no cost will be a major support for development of housing on that site.

Let me ask a broader question, however. Is this something that the Park Service is concerned about generally, and can you give me some thoughts about how we approach this issue of affordable housing more generally? Of course, the bill that we have before us is a specific response, but talk to me about workforce housing more generally across the parks system.

Mr. CALDWELL. Sure. Thank you, Senator King.

And certainly, we know of your interests in housing at Acadia and also the broader system. Director Sams has consistently communicated to the field, to all employees of the National Park Service, that employees are his number one priority and housing is very much an important part of that. Without some of the housing that we have in our units, those units just could not operate. So we are attacking this issue on a number of fronts across the National Park system, including a new FY23 budget request for both the construction on NPS lands and leasing in local communities of additional housing, exploring the potential for public-private partnerships to solve some of the housing needs that not only the National Park Service has, but also our gateway communities, like Senator Daines mentioned—the medicals and teachers—all the sorts of people that are in these gateway communities that we are proud to be part of, they share the same issues that we have in housing. So, certainly, our Director has charged us with using those authorities that we have or working with others to try to maybe gain some more flexibilities and authorities that are needed for public-public partnerships to help us with our housing needs.

Internally, in the National Park Service, we are revising Director's Order #36, which is our guidance for housing. It has been close to two decades since it was revised. So, you know, the housing needs have changed in the past two decades, so we are undertaking that right now. And last week we held a housing summit, hosted by Director Sams, where we had concessioners, as well as the private sector, as well as folks who have been involved in Department of Defense housing, just looking at new ways to offer housing for National Park Service employees as well as working with our communities. So I would characterize this as a top priority in the agency across the entire system.

Senator KING. Is the Park Service having difficulty obtaining workers, as most other American entities are these days?

Mr. CALDWELL. Yes, part of the summit that we had last week, we hosted, included three superintendents: Yosemite, Rocky Mountain, as well as Big Cypress. And certainly, you could have had Yellowstone or Acadia as part of that panel as well, but they did indi-

cate that it is hard to make offers to seasonal workers or even permanent workers without the ability and the flexibility to offer housing. So there were a number of instances where that was communicated.

Senator KING. Separate from the housing issue, are they having difficulty filling vacancies?

Mr. CALDWELL. I think they—in general, in terms of filling vacancies, it is harder from a seasonal workforce standpoint to fill those vacancies without those housing alternatives available in the community. So that is one of maybe several issues in terms of filling positions within park units.

Senator KING. In the Subcommittee, we often talk about bills that—as there is the John P. Parker House Study Act, and this is a bipartisan bill to have the Park Service study the applicability and appropriateness of developing a new park, particularly for underrepresented resources and stories. How do we approach this issue and how can the Subcommittee help?

Mr. CALDWELL. Thank you. Certainly, within where we are with special resource studies, we are currently studying a number of units, including Springfield Race Riots, for example, for possible inclusion in the National Park system. I think within our cultural resources program, there have been a number of efforts to look at these thematic themes and these networks of different aspects of our history, and I think continuing to encourage us to study the broader themes of American history is one way the Committee can certainly help support the system. In 2017, the National Park Service came out with a system plan, which identified certain gaps, both in our natural history, as well as our cultural history and our shared heritage, and I think utilizing that National Park system plan as a guide to maybe where the system could go in the future, would—I think, the Committee supporting that idea would be very helpful.

Senator KING. Thank you.

Senator Daines.

Senator DAINES. Mr. Caldwell, our bipartisan Gateway Community and Recreation Enhancement Act helps coordinate efforts between gateway communities, federal land managers, and public-private groups to address housing shortages and affordable housing for park employees and community members, and I think it is fair to say, since Senator King and I started working on this, the situation has even gotten worse than it was, perhaps, when we began this journey a while back. So I think the sense of urgency to move forward and take some action to address this problem is appropriate.

What is the Park Service doing now to address housing shortages in gateway communities and how will our bill further strengthen these existing efforts?

Mr. CALDWELL. Thank you, Senator. I think, as we alluded to with the earlier question, we have forwarded an increase in our housing improvement fund to both construct additional housing as well as lease housing in gateway communities. So that is one piece of it. The National Park Service, over the past several years, has put in, from a number of funding sources, up to \$95 million to add capacity as well as repair housing. So, by the end of 2026, there

will be approximately 95 different projects completed throughout the National Park System related to housing. And I think one thing about, certainly, the spirit of your legislation is the ability to offer flexibility on the ground to our park managers to work with communities to address—whether it is housing or visitation—overcrowding at different units. And I think the Park Service, you can see this in action in things like the Zion Regional Recreation Management Plan, where four counties in Utah are working with federal agencies to address the problems that we share. We share these wonderful resources, but with those resources come these shared challenges. So in the spirit of the Gateway Act, we certainly think that whether it is housing or visitation or spreading the visitation to other units, having those flexibilities for our park managers is really important.

Senator DAINES. You know, Senator King brought up the issue of open headcount slots and needing to fill slots in this current workforce shortage, a challenge we face in our country. I think that the housing, too, as we improve the housing for employees, that is an important retention strategy as well to build morale. Housing is such an important part of that, I think, of that total package.

Our bipartisan bill also requires that the Park Service work with other federal land managers to address increased visitation, in part, by encouraging visitation to lesser-known public land recreation opportunities. In Montana, there are countless recreation opportunities, but we see that folks often only visit one or two of the more well-known sites. How will spreading visitation help reduce pressure at some of our high-impact recreation sites?

Mr. CALDWELL. Senator, I think, speaking certainly as a former superintendent, one of the strongest partnerships you can have locally are with both your local travel bureaus as well as your statewide tourism bureaus, and I certainly have seen this at work in a number of states. I just referred to the one at Zion. And I think those happen across the system. I think we need to continue to emphasize these partnerships across the system where, whether it is a federal, state, or local unit, we are all in this together, and our goal is to both preserve these resources and provide for the enjoyment of the visitor.

And so, I think those powerful partnerships, giving the park managers some flexibility to facilitate those partnerships, really are key to dealing with some of the issues that you cited.

Senator DAINES. Spreading visitation also, I think, will allow folks to visit and experience sites they may have never heard of, like the Lewis and Clark Caverns. That is a state park, west of my hometown of Bozeman, or the Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area. How will our bipartisan bill help promote these lesser-known gems and bolster recreation on all of our public lands?

Mr. CALDWELL. I think, from whether it is marketing, promotion, or just providing that stellar visitor experience, to meet the visitors where they are and then make sure that we are also communicating the other assets and things that are enjoyable in that particular area, is really something that we should do as an agency, and I know we do. In many ways, while the park rangers are ambassadors at Acadia for Acadia National Park, they are certainly up there and should be able to speak to Katahdin Woods or to Bax-

ter State Park or Campobello Island, for example. And I think that is the type of on-the-ground partnership that we need to continue to emphasize in the field.

Senator DAINES. Mr. Caldwell, thank you.

Mr. CALDWELL. Thank you.

Senator KING. Thank you, Mr. Caldwell.

As a member of the Commission at Campobello, I appreciate that mention. We need to have some people turn right instead of left when they leave Mount Desert Island, and they can also experience some amazing places.

S. 3551, which is a bill Senator Daines was talking about—the recreational opportunities in gateway communities—you didn't explicitly support, but I understand you have some technical and other issues. I certainly hope that you will continue to work with the Committee so we can iron those out and move that bill with the other package.

Mr. CALDWELL. Yes, we would welcome that opportunity. Thank you, Senator.

Senator KING. Thank you.

We have S. 2964, the National Scenic Trails Parity Act, which, for me, highlights an issue that I have noticed, particularly when I have gotten engaged with this Committee. It turns out we have 25 different titles for National Park units. We have national parks, trails, monuments, historic parks, battlefields, reserves, lake shores, on and on. I would suggest that it might be helpful to the public to do some work to try to create more consistent and less confusing labels, if you will, for these units. Is that something that we can discuss and perhaps pursue? I want the public to know what the difference is, and I am not sure we need 25 different labels.

Mr. CALDWELL. I think we would welcome a chance to work with you and the Committee staff on that issue.

Senator KING. And you mentioned—Senator Daines mentioned—the state park, and I think informing the public is important. And we, in the bill that we talked about and passed last week, there is a provision for technology for alerting people to where parks are crowded, but the other is other regional assets that may not be national parks. For example, in Moab, you are near, I think, Reef, certainly near Arches and other national parks, but there is Dead Horse Point State Park, which is an astonishing place, and it would be nice if there was an app that would talk about public resources within the region. And I hope that is something the Department will look at.

Mr. CALDWELL. I think we certainly support the spirit of making sure that we are communicating and connecting visitors to those places where they go. This nation is blessed with some incredible state parks, and I think, certainly, our visitors appreciate when we make those connections.

Senator DAINES. Just a thought on that too, following on the app, Senator King. You know, when the public is out recreating, they are not necessarily too caught up on whether it is a state park or a national park, and it is public lands, and I know we tend to have to be in our silos in terms of the way that the governments are organized, but I think it is really something to expand thinking—na-

tional park apps recommending where is a great state park nearby. So I think it is an interesting idea.

Senator KING. Complete with reviews.

Senator DAINES. Complete with reviews.

[Laughter.]

Senator KING. Mr. Caldwell, additional testimony for the Subcommittee this morning? Do you have other subjects that we should be attending to that are not in this package of legislation?

Mr. CALDWELL. Not that come to the top of my pile, sir, but we certainly do appreciate though, the interest in housing, in particular, certainly with Bar Harbor as well as places like Gardiner. Just to reiterate, I know Director Sams has continued to emphasize employees are his priority for the system and I think your support to provide adequate, quality housing is really important, not just to the employees, but certainly to the public that visits those parks. So we appreciate that.

Senator KING. Is it nice to have a director?

Mr. CALDWELL. It is nice to have a director. Thank you, sir.

Senator KING. Thank you.

Any further questions?

[No response.]

Senator KING. Without further questions, I appreciate the testimony, Mr. Caldwell.

This hearing is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 10:34 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

APPENDIX MATERIAL SUBMITTED



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

DEC 14 2022

The Honorable Angus King
Chairman, Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed are responses to the Questions for the Record from the May 11, 2022, legislative hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on National Parks. These responses were prepared by the National Park Service. We apologize for the delay in our response.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to respond to you on these matters.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
Office of Congressional and
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure
cc: The Honorable Steve Daines
Ranking Member

Questions for the Record
 Senate Energy and Natural Resources
 Subcommittee on National Parks
 Hearing on *Pending Legislation*
 May 11, 2022

Questions from Senator John Hoeven

Question 1: How would the *Gateway Community Recreation Enhancement Act* improve partnerships between the National Parks and associated gateway communities, particularly in light of increased visitorship?

RESPONSE: Generally, the more that national parks and their associated gateway communities are able to work from the same set of facts and analyses about visitation, the better they are at cooperatively addressing issues such as housing, overcrowding, and management of sustainable visitation. If enacted, national parks chosen for the pilot program under S. 3551 would have a more systematic process for sharing information about visitation with gateway communities than currently exists, which will provide additional data on the effectiveness of local partnerships. Community engagement continues to be an important element in responding to changing needs and evolving challenges in a time of increased visitation to our public lands, and we welcome the opportunity to work with Congress to address these issues.

Question 2: The *National Scenic Trails Parity Act* would convert three National Scenic Trails to “units” of the National Park System, including the North Country Scenic Trail, which spans over 4,000 miles from North Dakota through New York and Vermont.

- a. If this bill were to be enacted, how would future rights of way applications be treated for pipelines, transmission lines, or other infrastructure needed to cross these trails?
- b. What additional reviews and federal approvals would be required for these crossings, and how does that compare to the trails’ current status?
- c. Has NPS undertaken an analysis as to what additional resources it may need, from a workforce and funding perspective, to convert these trails to NPS units?
- d. Does NPS believe it currently has adequate resources to cover any additional costs associated with such a conversion?

Response: The designation of certain National Scenic Trails as units of the National Park System would not have any impact on the treatment of right-of-way applications for trail crossings; the processes would remain the same whether the trails are units or not. Unit status would also not have any effect on funding or staffing levels for the trails.

Questions for the Record
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks
Hearing on *Pending Legislation*
May 11, 2022

Questions from Senator James Lankford

Questions: Mr. Caldwell, I have a couple questions regarding one of the bills, S.3519, the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail Designation Act, considered at the recent National Parks Subcommittee legislative hearing. This bill would designate a national historic trail that runs from California into Missouri and Tennessee. One segment of the trail runs through southeast Oklahoma, so I want to be sure my constituents in that region have clarity on the implications of the designation.

- Would this trail have any impact on development projects in the area, both with regard to whether a project can be pursued at all, and what permits would be required?
 - More specifically, would this designation change whether a pipeline could get an easement to cross the path of the trail?
 - Would the designation change the process for siting transmission lines in the area?
 - Would any new permits be required for any energy infrastructure, be it a pipeline, a transmission line, an oil well, or a wind turbine?
 - Would the designation change the feasibility and required permitting for building houses, manufacturing facilities, or any other physical structure in the area?

Response: National Historic Trail designation would not impact existing land ownership or land management actions, including actions related to energy development and transmission on lands that are not owned by the National Park Service. The landowner would be responsible for determining their own approach to any development proposals.

The Honorable Angus King, Jr.
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Steve Daines
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on National Parks
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

May 9, 2022

Dear Chairman King and Ranking Member Daines:

We are writing on behalf of the National Trails Community to express support for the National Scenic Trails Parity Act, S. 2964, (Parity Act) introduced by Senator Baldwin. We represent National Scenic and Historic Trail co-managing non-governmental organizations with extensive experience co-managing our National Scenic and Historic Trails with our agency partners in the federal and state governments and the millions of users and volunteers that recreate on and steward these trails. Thank you for holding a legislative hearing to consider the Parity Act. We respectfully request that our letter be included in the formal hearing record.

National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHTs) established under the National Trails System Act of 1968 are “partnership parks,” co-managed by non-governmental entities that facilitate volunteer maintenance and participation in the stewardship of these special public lands. For those that are administered by the National Park Service (NPS), the NSHTs are part of the National Park System. Three of the National Scenic Trails administered by the National Park Service (NPS)—the Appalachian, Potomac Heritage, and Natchez Trace—possess what is referred to within the NPS as “unit status,” while the three other National Scenic Trails—the Ice Age, New England, and North Country—possess a lesser administrative status than “unit.” The Parity Act would recognize “unit status” for the three National Scenic Trails (NSTs) that the NPS does not currently recognize as units, despite being established under the same legislative authority as those three trails with unit status. Passage of the Parity Act would create administrative clarity and improved management. By confirming that these three trails are, in fact, “units,” Congress can ensure that all of the National Park Service’s NSTs are treated in the same manner.

As partners in supporting a robust National Trails System and a strong recreation economy, we know it is critical that the federal land management agencies support the resources under their care. As a community, we repeatedly see the inequities in how opportunities and funding are allocated among the National Scenic Trails. The three affected trails have been denied funding for planning, natural resource management, staff capacity, and have been left out of major promotional opportunities that are available to other National Parks and that must be remedied on the basis of an administrative process and not on the will of Congress.

The recognition of unit status for these three trails will in no way diminish our trails, nor will it diminish any other unit of the National Park System. Congress designates all National Scenic Trails for the same purpose, under the same statute, to have the same access to funding and opportunity within the National

Park System. We believe all components of the National Trails System should all have the same access to the support and resources that they need to be successfully and cooperatively managed, as Congress intends by designating them.

At a time when more and more Americans are looking to safely and responsibly enjoy the outdoors, the National Scenic Trails Parity Act honors the scenic, natural, recreational, cultural, and historical resources Congress set out to protect in designating these trails as well as the ability of non-governmental organizations and volunteers to play an active role in stewarding these resources for the benefit of the American people, always.

Thank you for considering this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Ala Kahakai Trail Association

American Hiking Society

American Trails

Appalachian Mountain Club

Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Arizona Trail Association

Back Country Horsemen of America

Connecticut Forest & Park Association

Continental Divide Trail Association

Florida Trail Association

Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance

National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, Inc.

Overmountain Victory Trail Association

Pacific Crest Trail Association

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

Partnership for the National Trails System



May 11, 2022

U.S. Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
 Subcommittee on National Parks
 304 Dirksen Senate Building
 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman King and Ranking Member Daines,

On behalf of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), I write to express support for S. 2964, the National Scenic Trails Parity Act.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is the §501(c)(3) non-profit organization charged under a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service (NPS) to manage the 2,194-mile Appalachian National Scenic Trail (ANST, A.T., or "Trail"), a unit of the National Park System. The Trail is a "linear park," surrounded by approximately 300,000 acres of government-protected land (as well as many acres of privately conserved land). The ANST and the National Trails System Act (NTSA), which is the enabling legislation for all components of the System, are in large part the results of the efforts of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Appalachian Trail Maintaining Clubs, the 30 local and regional organizations responsible for on-the-ground Trail management. We 31 non-governmental organizations work hand-in-hand with our National Park Service (NPS) trail administrator and other partners in the federal and state governments in the ANST's "Cooperative Management System."

The National Trails System (System) as a whole serves valuable roles within our public lands network, including connecting conserved areas, protecting wildlife migration, and offering world-class recreational (and thus economic) opportunities. Furthermore, the System's genesis is in public-private partnerships and predicated on co-management with non-governmental entities. Despite the inclusive foundations of the System and its management, National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHTs) struggle from a lack of parity in federal recognition and support. While the ANST is often considered the "mother trail," the NTSA itself recognizes no distinctions in importance, treatment, or administrative classification between National Scenic Trails (NSTs). All NSTs are "lower case n, lower case p" national parks; these parks are designed to conserve land and resources in part by connecting them and intended to be treated as "national parks."

While there are a myriad of questions regarding the different status of components of the National Park System, there are two pertinent disparities at play. First, this legislation targets the "unit-status" disparity between the six NSTs administered by the NPS. Of these, three are among the 424 "units of the National Park System," while three are non-unit "related areas" under NPS jurisdiction.¹ Specifically, until "unit status" is recognized for all National Scenic Trails, the Appalachian, Natchez Trace, and Potomac Heritage NSTs are System units, while the North Country, Ice Age, and New England NSTs are "related areas." According to the agency's available explanation, "units," rather than "related areas," are what the NPS "directly manages" and "related areas are linked in importance and purpose to places managed directly by the National Park Service"² but are themselves

¹ See generally U.S.C. Title 54 (e.g., 54 U.S.C. § 102301(a)).

² *National Park System*, Nat'l Park Serv. (last updated Mar. 18, 2022), <https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/national-park-system.htm>

somehow lesser than “units.” From ATC’s perspective, there is no good reason why these three NSTs, equal under the National Trails System Act and subject to the same management prerogatives under Director’s Order 45 (D.O. 45), should not possess “units” status or treatment like their peer NSTs.

Secondly, National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHTs) as a class are too often misunderstood by those outside of their “unit” offices (directly assigned NPS employees) within the land management bureaus (NPS, U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management). The very nature of NSHTs—partnership parks with many unguarded entry/exit points, designed to facilitate use while advancing conservation on a landscape-scale—is different from the model that generally applies to “square parks,” such as our connected units in Shenandoah or Delaware Water Gap, and even from our National Forests and Bureau of Land Management lands. While we would argue the three non-unit NSTs administered by the NPS receive comparatively disparate treatment by the NPS, the lack of unit status, while unexplained and unjustifiable, may more reflect the reality that the NSTs is not as well understood as it should be, and that NSHTs are an archipelago in an ocean of “square parks” whose administration seems to be so much more straight-forward within the NPS. Although D.O. 45 sought to correct this disparity, for whatever reason, access to funding and other “unit”-restricted support continues to elude the non-unit NSTs.

There is no basis in law discernable to ATC—whether the NTSA, D.O. 45, or the NPS Organic Act—that enables the NPS to declare that three NSTs are units, worthy of one class of treatment, but the three others are not, and deserving of different treatment. ATC and the NPS can agree that not every national park is styled as a “capital n, capital p” park, but there must be equal treatment and equal access to resources, as well as an equal understanding of how the NSHTs and our Cooperative Management Systems operate. That is the parity that D.O. 45 sought to establish, and that is the parity that the National Scenic and Historic Trails deserve.

ATC strongly supports S. 2964’s recognition of “unit status” for the North Country, Ice Age, and New England National Scenic Trails, something we believe the NPS Director can already do, and should have been accomplished by D.O. 45. Furthermore, we believe that the same access to resources should be afforded to the National Historic Trails, which are also “lowercase n, lowercase p” national parks. We look forward to continuing the conversation about the uniqueness of National Scenic and Historic Trails within the American public land system, and how Congress and the President can support these special conserved areas that connect Baxter State Park in Maine to the Kootenai National Forest in Montana, and beyond.

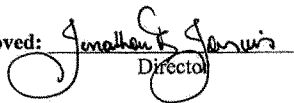
Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



Brendan Mysliwiec
Director of Federal Policy
Appalachian Trail Conservancy

DIRECTOR'S ORDER #45: NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM

Approved: 
Director

Effective Date: 5-24-2013

Duration: This Order will remain in effect until amended or rescinded

This Director's Order, together with Reference Manual 45, supersedes any previously issued conflicting policies, instructions or requirements.

Contents:

1. Purpose and Background
 2. Authorities
 3. Policies, Procedures, and Responsibilities
 4. Third-party Enforceability
-

1. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**1.1 Purpose**

This Director's Order outlines National Park Service (NPS) policies and procedures for national scenic and historic trails to ensure that congressionally designated trails are recognized and operated on a consistent basis to ensure protection of the characteristics and values of the trails and their use and enjoyment by future generations. In addition, it outlines NPS responsibilities in processing nominations and offering program leadership for national recreation trails.

1.2 Types of Trails

The National Trails System (System), (16 USC 1242(a)), includes:

- a. National Recreation Trails. These trails, recognized and designated by the Secretary of the Interior or Agriculture, provide a variety of outdoor recreational uses that are accessible to urban areas or are located within Federal or State parks, forests, and recreation areas. This category also includes components of the National Water Trails System, established and designated by the Secretary of the Interior.
- b. National Scenic Trails. These are extended trails, established by Congress, so located as to provide for maximum outdoor recreation potential and for the conservation and enjoyment of the nationally significant scenic, historic, natural, or cultural qualities of the areas through which such trails may pass.

- c. National Historic Trails. These are extended trails, established by Congress, that follow as closely as possible the original routes of nationally significant historic and prehistoric travel routes. The purpose of these trails is the identification and protection of the historic route and its artifacts for public use and enjoyment.
- d. Connecting or Side Trails. These trails, recognized and designated by the Secretary of the Interior or Agriculture, provide access to or connect national recreation, national scenic, and national historic trails.

1.3 Background

Enacted in 1968, the National Trails System Act, (16 USC 1241 through 1251), provides for the establishment of national scenic, historic, recreation, and connecting/side trails to preserve and permit appropriate public use of the natural, cultural, and recreational resources along their routes. The Act established the Appalachian and Pacific Crest National Scenic Trails as the initial components of the National Trails System and prescribed methods by which additional components might be (and subsequently have been) added to the System.

Today, the components of the System link many of America's most significant natural, cultural, and recreational resources. These trails connect with other Federal, State, and local trails and trail facilities, as well as trails and facilities in Canada and Mexico. Many NPS areas were created because of their association with these significant travel routes. Elsewhere, the national recreation trail program has brought added recognition to trails within park areas. When fully developed through public and private partnerships, the trails will be clearly and consistently protected and marked, professionally interpreted, and will provide unique educational and recreational experiences for visitors and users nationwide.

Like national parks, monuments, and other parts of the National Park System, NPS-administered national scenic and historic trails were created for the purposes of resource preservation and public enjoyment. However, a number of challenging factors differentiate the administration of national trails from the administration of most units of the National Park System:

- a. Trail length (these trails are often more than 1,000 miles long);
- b. Linear corridors with often indistinct and variable boundaries;
- c. Complex and mixed land ownership patterns along the trails; and
- d. The critical need for strong partnerships among Federal agencies, State and local governments, nonprofit organizations, commercial interests, private landowners, and individuals.

2. **AUTHORITIES**

2.1 NPS Organic Act

Authority to issue this Director's Order is contained in the NPS Organic Act, (16 USC 1 through 4), and Part 245 of the Department of the Interior Manual, section 1.1(C)(1)).

2.2 National Trails System Act

Other authorities governing NPS-administered national scenic and historic trails are contained in the National Trails System Act, specifically 16 USC 1246. Linkage between the authorities for administration of national trails and other national park areas is found in subsection (i):

The Secretary responsible for the administration of any segment of any component of the National Trails System (as determined in a manner consistent with subsection (a)(1) of this section) may also utilize authorities related to units of the national park system or the national forest system, as the case may be, in carrying out his administrative responsibilities for such component. (16 USC 1246(i)).

In addition, the 1970 National Park System General Authorities Act, (16 USC 1a-1 et seq.), states:

The "national park system" shall include any area of land and water now or hereafter administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service for park, monument, historic, parkway, recreational, or other purposes. (16 USC 1c(a)).

Also, chapter 1 of Part 710 of the Departmental Manual, promulgated August 16, 1977, deals with the National Trails System.

2.3 National Recreation Trails

Authority for the Secretary of the Interior to recognize and designate national recreation trails is found in the National Trails System Act, specifically 16 USC 1243. The NPS is responsible for the processing of all NRT and national water trail applications (other than those involving the USDA Forest Service), maintaining NRT records, and protecting the NRT logo under 18 USC 701.

3. **POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

3.1 Management Policies

This Director's Order supplements the provisions of National Park Service *Management Policies 2006*, in particular section 9.2.2.7, which states:

Several components of the National Trails System which are administered by the Service have been designated as units of the national park system. These trails are therefore managed as national park areas and are subject to all the policies contained herein, as well as to any other requirements specified in the National Trails System Act.

Other scenic, historic, connecting/side, and recreational trails designated under the National Trails System Act are in or adjacent to park units. Some of these may also be administered by the Service, though not as units of the national park system. In all cases, the Service will cooperate with other land managers, nonprofit organizations, and user groups to facilitate

appropriate trail use in accordance with the laws and policies applicable to such trails, and to the extent that trail management and use would not cause unacceptable impacts.

3.2 Determination of Significance for Potential National Historic Trails

In the feasibility study process for any proposed national historic trail being considered by an NPS team under the authorities of 16 USC 1244(b), before the Statement of Significance is submitted by the study team for consideration to the National Park System Advisory Board as required in the National Trails System Act, (16 USC 1244(b)(3)), the statement will be reviewed by an NPS panel composed of: (a) the Chief Historian; (b) the Chief of Interpretation and Education; (c) the Chief of the Office of Policy; (d) the Chief of Conservation and Outdoor Recreation; and (e) the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places. This panel will be convened by the Chief of the Office of Planning and Special Studies. Their recommendations (both majority and minority opinions) will then be submitted to the study's approving official and used to guide the study team to either terminate the study or continue and approach the Advisory Board.

3.3 Assignment of Responsibility and Delegation of Authority

Assignment will be made by an activation memorandum following passage of the trail's authorizing legislation. The administration of each national scenic or historic trail assigned to the NPS on or after the effective date of this Director's Order will be delegated by the Director to the regional or field office that:

- a. Administers another national trail following the same route for a significant portion of its length (this will be the controlling criterion when applicable); or
- b. Includes the greatest number of States through which the trail passes or the greatest number of miles of the trail route corridor; or
- c. In the case of national historic trails, contains the greatest number of significant historic sites associated with the trail; or
- d. Is the most central to the trail route; or
- e. Has the most historical involvement with, or special knowledge of, the trail's cultural, natural, or socio-political characteristics.

Where portions of the trail lie within NPS regions other than the one to which the trail has been assigned for administration, such other regions will be included fully in the deliberations, planning, and programs for their portions of the trail.

3.4 Establishment and Funding

Once activated and assigned, a national scenic or historic trail will be given the necessary base operating funds and supplemental funds to support the associated advisory council, an adequate staff assignment, and timely increases to establish and maintain optimal operations as defined by approved planning documents, on a basis commensurate with NPS units in the region, subject to the availability of appropriated funding and resources. Trail offices will be eligible to compete

for all operational funds, special program funds, staff, and the complete array of professional services from NPS divisions and centers in the same manner as other NPS units and offices, unless otherwise restricted. For example, some facilities maintenance and repair programs are restricted to just facility assets owned in whole or in part by the NPS.

3.5 Staffing

Each national scenic and historic trail will be administered by a trail superintendent whose responsibilities, among others, are outlined in the next paragraph.

3.6 Trail Administration and Management

The trail superintendent and staff are responsible for administering the national scenic or national historic trails to which they were assigned in a manner that ensures adequate protection for the trails and their related features. These responsibilities include:

- coordination with planning,
- sustaining trail partnerships,
- oversight of trail site and segment protection and development,
- development of trail maintenance standards,
- trail marking,
- authorizing appropriate uses of the trail logo,
- land protection planning,
- trail segment certification,
- resource protection,
- promoting recreation and access,
- trailwide resource and viewshed inventories and mapping (often using geographic information system or GIS),
- promoting interpretation and education,
- cooperative and interagency agreements,
- tracking volunteer contributions, and
- financial assistance to other cooperating government agencies, landowners, interest groups, and individuals.

Once a national scenic or historic trail is established, the trail superintendent should form an advisory council within one year as outlined in 16 USC 1244(d).

On-the-ground management of a trail corridor involves many different government entities and private groups and individuals who own and/or manage lands along each national trail.

Management responsibilities include:

- resource inventorying,
- planning and development of trail segments and sites,
- compliance with environmental and other statutory requirements,
- avoidance or mitigation of resource damage,
- provision of appropriate public access and recreation management,

- interpretation and education,
- trail maintenance,
- trail marking,
- resource and viewshed protection, and
- management and tracking of visitor use.

Ideally, these functions should be closely coordinated with each trail's superintendent. Uses permitted on national scenic and historic trails are limited to those that will not substantially interfere with the nature and purposes of each trail. (16 USC 1246(c)). Other uses are permitted or prohibited based on NPS *Management Policies 2006* and similar guidance, depending on the administering agency.

Where national trails cross, touch, or pass near other NPS-administered areas, the opportunity exists to enhance both entities. Park units are encouraged to interpret, mark, and provide access to national trails—even if administered by other agencies—in or near those units. On park maps, brochures, and interpretive media, park units will indicate appropriate national trail(s) and their distinctive rounded triangle logos. (See 3.19 below).

3.7 Cooperation and Consultation

NPS will ensure that its administration of national scenic and historic trails will be in close consultation and collaboration with all appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, tribal groups, and nonprofit organizations. System-wide and trail-specific agreements fostering such cooperation and clarifying roles and responsibilities are the primary means by which such collaboration is documented.

3.8 Partnership Agreements

Written agreements or other documentation will be used to coordinate trail administration and management activities and help resolve any conflicts which may arise. When in the public interest, NPS will enter into agreements with States or local governments, landowners, private organizations, or individuals to operate, develop, or maintain any portion of these trails. NPS is also authorized to enter into cooperative agreements to provide limited financial assistance to encourage participation in the acquisition, protection, operation, development, or maintenance of these trails. (16 USC 1246(h)).

For example, where a trail crosses lands administered by other Federal, State, or local agencies—or that are located within a National Park System unit—the trail superintendent may enter into an agreement with affected management parties to address jurisdictional issues and other concerns. In addition, the trail superintendent may enter into written agreements with State or local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and other parties as appropriate to address specific responsibilities for trail operations and maintenance activities. (See Director's Order #20: Agreements).

3.9 Land and Water Protection

Ensuring adequate long-term protection for the corridors and associated resources of the national scenic and historic trails can be a complex and costly commitment. The National Trails System Act suggests that all interested parties—State, regional, and local governments, tribal organizations, land trusts, and even individual landowners—should be encouraged and given the opportunity to help protect these multi-jurisdictional trail corridors.

When necessary the National Park Service, in close consultation with affected agencies and private interests, will encourage the use of all available authorities and funding sources to protect the national scenic and historic trail corridors and their associated resources identified and described in the National Trails System Act. Specific National Trails System authorities include acceptance of donations of lands or interests in lands, use of surplus Federal lands, land exchanges, easements, reserved and retained rights-of-way, and full fee acquisition. The minimization and mitigation of adverse impacts should be considered and pursued using authorities such as the National Environmental Protection Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.

3.10 Land Status

The intent of the System is to create protected corridors for recreation and historic preservation. Often the protection of significant trail-related resources is carried out through agreements with public agencies, land trusts, private landowners, and others, as well as directly influencing land and water protection along each trail corridor.

For Federal lands, the National Trails System Act specifically states:

Nothing contained in this chapter shall be deemed to transfer among Federal agencies any management responsibilities established under any other law for federally administered lands which are components of the National Trails System. 16 USC 1246(a)(1)(A).

However, when it is in the public interest, management responsibilities for a segment of a national scenic or national historic trail between Federal agencies may be transferred through a memorandum of agreement. Development, operations, and maintenance of such a trail segment under the laws, regulations, and policies of the department assuming the management responsibilities must be defined in the agreement. (16 USC 1246(a)(1)(B)).

3.11 Planning

The NPS will prepare appropriate planning documents to protect the resources and attributes and to provide for public use and appreciation of the national scenic and historic trails authorized by Congress and assigned to it for administration. Each trail's comprehensive management plan (CMP) will include, at a minimum, those provisions stipulated in 16 USC 1244(e) or (f) that outline trail comprehensive plan requirements. Each CMP will also identify the minimum level of regulation necessary to protect the resources and attributes that warranted the trail's designation by Congress. CMPs may also include such other provisions as may be needed to

satisfy the intent of chapter 2, “Park System Planning,” of *Management Policies 2006* and the unique circumstances of the trail. Each trail will then operate according to the CMP.

Trail staff should collaborate with local stakeholders to develop local site and segment plans that are consistent with and help effectuate the CMP. Local trail and site plans, land protection plans, sign plans, and similar project documents may be developed by trail superintendents in collaboration with affected parties or, alternatively, where appropriate, by managing entities with involvement by trail administrators and other affected parties. Where trails or trail resources are located within the boundaries of NPS units, planning for those units will include concerns for trail preservation, interpretation, visitor uses, and facility development. For such projects, the trail superintendent (or delegated representative) will be invited to participate fully as a member of the planning or design team.

3.12 Regulations

The National Trails System Act, (16 USC 1246(i)), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations, as needed, “governing the use, protection, management, development, and administration of trails of the national trails system.”

Parts 1 through 5 of Title 36 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, applicable to most NPS units, also apply to trail corridors where the lands and waters underlying such corridors are:

- a. Federally owned and administered by the NPS; or
- b. Federally owned and managed by another Federal agency, but administered by the NPS for trail purposes pursuant to a written agreement with the other Federal agency; or
- c. In State or local ownership, or privately owned, and administered by the NPS for trail purposes pursuant to an agreement with the landowner, to the extent that such regulations are consistent with the agreement. (The term “agreement” is used here as the term “cooperative agreement” is used in the National Trails System Act, although the agreements will be “general agreements” or “memoranda of understanding” within the meaning of Director’s Order #20: Agreements).

The regulations in Parts 1 through 5 may be modified by special regulations issued in 36 CFR Part 7. Such special regulations will be carefully crafted to meet legitimate and compelling management needs in accordance with the consultation and cooperative agreement requirements of the National Trails System Act.

3.13 Guidance

The Assistant Director for Partnerships and Civic Engagement (PCE), acting through the Division of Conservation and Outdoor Recreation, will prepare and issue (and update as appropriate) a “Level Three” document providing additional guidance for NPS administration of national scenic and historic trails (Reference Manual 45), and such additional materials as may

be appropriate (e.g., Section 3.19). This manual will be prepared in close consultation with other affected Federal agencies.

3.14 Motorized Uses on National Scenic and Historic Trails

The National Trails System Act generally prohibits the use of motorized vehicles by the general public along any national scenic trails, unless determined necessary for emergencies or to ensure reasonable access for adjacent landowners and land users. Trail-specific regulations addressing this issue may be issued for each trail in 36 CFR Part 7. National historic trails may be designated for motor vehicle use if such use is allowed by regulations when the trail is established by Congress, and motor vehicle use will not substantially interfere with the nature and purpose of the trail. (See 16 USC 1246(c)).

3.15 National Recreation Trails (NRTs) on NPS Lands

For this section, NRTs will include the components of the National Water Trails System. National water trail applications will use the NRT application format plus all required supplemental information unique to water trails.

- a. In designating an NRT on lands and waters administrated by the NPS, emphasis shall be placed on trail networks where all components of the network meet applicable criteria and standards.
- b. To apply for NRT status, the responsible NPS superintendent should prepare and submit an “Application for Designation” as found on the website www.americantrails.org/nationalrecreationtrails/ApplyNRT.html. Requested information includes contact information, short and long descriptions of the trail, trail uses and statistics, times of operation, fees, and a certification for public use.
- c. Trail use on an NRT should be managed in keeping with the objectives established for the trail and surrounding NPS lands. Where a segment of an NRT traverses an area of special congressional designation, such as a wilderness area, all appropriate restrictions will apply.

3.16 Criteria for Submitting National Recreation Trail Nominations

Trails and trail systems submitted for recognition as NRTs must meet the following criteria to be designated:

- a. The trail must be open to public use and be designed, constructed, and maintained according to best management practices, in keeping with the use anticipated. Trails that demonstrate state-of-the-art design and management are especially encouraged to apply for NRT designation.
- b. The trail is in compliance with applicable land use plans and environmental laws.
- c. The trail must be physically continuous (without breaks) and be open for public use for at least 10 consecutive years after designation.

- d. NRT designation must be supported by the landowner(s), public or private, whose property the trail crosses.

3.17 Connecting and Side Trails

Recognizing connecting and side trails can help complete trail networks, provide missing links to other trails and nearby features, or allow enhanced access. Connecting and side trails may be established where appropriate by the Secretary of the Interior in accord with 16 USC 1245. Such trails are considered to be components of the National Trails System as connecting and side trails, not as integral parts of the trails to which they connect.

To be eligible for recognition as a connecting or side trail within the National Trails System, nominated trails must meet all three of the following eligibility criteria:

- a. The trail must connect physically to one or more NHTs, NRTs, or NSTs.
- b. The trail must be compatible in use and closely related in theme to the trail to which it connects. For example, a hiking trail can connect to another hiking trail, but a mountain bicycle trail cannot connect to a hiking-only trail. For historic trails, a connecting or side trail must be associated in theme and story with the main trail to which it connects.
- c. The connecting or side trail must be available for public use for the next 20 years.

3.18 Volunteers

The National Trails System Act specifically authorizes the involvement of volunteer organizations and individuals to participate in the planning, development, maintenance, and management of trails. Such volunteers have also proven invaluable in land acquisition, project development, maintenance, interpretation, educational services, and managing parts of each trail. Organizations and individual volunteers may be designated as Volunteers-in-Parks and Volunteers-in-Forests when working on trails administered by the Secretary of the Interior or Secretary of Agriculture, respectively. (16 USC 1246(h)). Trail superintendents may make available Federal facilities, equipment, tools, and technical and financial assistance to volunteers and volunteer organizations as authorized in 16 USC 1250. (Also see Director's Order #7: Volunteers in Parks).

3.19 Trail Markers

The National Trails System Act directs development of a distinctive trail marker logo for each national scenic, historic, and recreation trail. It also directs the Federal administrator of such trails to provide such markers to managers of non-Federal segments. (16 USC 1246(c)). For national scenic and historic trails, the trail's logo design is approved as part of the trail's CMP and must be published in the *Federal Register* as a public notice. All NRTs use the same logo (protected as a Federal insignia), but individual NRT names and symbols may be added by each trail's manager.

It is the responsibility of individual trail superintendents to retain the original electronic logo files for each national scenic and historic trail administered by the Service, and to provide a copy to the appropriate Washington Office. The National Trails Office will prepare a supplement to the *NPS Sign Manual* that gives the sizing, layout, and installation specifications of all the National Trails System-related signs and logos. Authorization for permitted use of a scenic or historic trail logo under 18 USC 701 is the responsibility of individual trail superintendents, while permission for use of the NRT logo is given by the NRT program leader in the Washington Office.

See Director's Order #52D for guidance on the use of the NPS Arrowhead symbol on trail signs, brochures, markers, and other official uses and materials.

3.20 Construction and Operation of Visitor Facilities

As a general rule, new visitor center facilities for national scenic and historic trails outside NPS boundaries will not be operated by the NPS; the NPS will operate visitor center facilities only within established park boundaries. At locations outside park boundaries, the NPS may assist trail partners in land acquisition, planning, design, interpretive exhibits, and even construction, as authorized and funded by Congress. At locations outside park boundaries, unless otherwise directed by Congress, the NPS will not fund the operations of such facilities, although the Service may locate staff at such sites operated by others in accordance with an MOU or other written agreement and available funding. Within NPS boundaries, visitor facilities and programs near national scenic, historic, and recreation trails are encouraged to be upgraded to feature those trails' access information, significance, benefits, and stories.

3.21 Data Standards

Official data sets will conform to the Federal Trail Data Standards approved by the Federal Geographic Data Committee. Such data sets include, but are not limited to, reports on accomplishments pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), trail metrics, public information, and geographic information systems (GIS).

3.22 Transfer of Management

The National Trails System Act, (16 USC 1246 (a)(1)(B)), outlines how management of trail corridors can be transferred between agencies within the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior. (See 3.10 above). Such transfers require a memorandum of agreement and after transfer the trail corridor:

shall be subject to the laws, rules, and regulations of the Secretary provided with the management authority under the agreement except to such extent as the agreement may otherwise expressly provide.

3.23 Marketing and Promotion

The National Park Service will include information about all NPS-administered national scenic

and historic trails – and, where appropriate, all the components of the National Trails System – in marketing and promotion campaigns for such products as the *National Park System Map and Guide*, Web Sites, National Park System promotions, TV and video specials, outreach to partners, anniversary promotions, and special campaigns.

3.24 Official Listing

NPS-administered trails will be listed together in the *National Park System Index*.

4. THIRD-PARTY ENFORCEABILITY

This Director's Order is intended only to improve the internal management of the NPS, and is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, instrumentalities or entities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

----- *End of Director's Order* -----



BACKCOUNTRY
HUNTERS & ANGLERS

239 PARK AVENUE
PINE, CO 80470
303-746-3570

December 10, 2021

The Honorable Joe Neguse
U.S. House of Representatives
1419 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
U.S. Senate
SR-374 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hickenlooper and Representative Neguse:

On behalf of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (BHA), the voice for our wild public lands, waters and wildlife, I write to express our strong support for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Recovery Act. This legislation will not only achieve greater certainty for water users in the Upper Colorado River basin, it will strengthen commitments to the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and ensure continuity for the recovery of critical fisheries and habitat conservation efforts.

Colorado is fueled by a robust outdoor industry and a farming and ranching community that relies on water resources. Our angling traditions and western heritage are inextricably linked to water and we thank you for ensuring the future of conservation programs that support healthy fisheries, agricultural production, and continue to provide for all water users.

We appreciate your commitment to this important program authorization and stand ready to work with you and your staff to see that it advances through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

John W. Gale
Conservation Director
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers



WWW.BACKCOUNTRYHUNTERS.ORG



GALE@BACKCOUNTRYHUNTERS.ORG



May 16, 2022

SENATOR ANGUS KING, CHAIR
SENATE ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RE: Support of S. 4114, "To amend Public Law 99-420
to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine
for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes."

Dear Senator King and Committee Members,

I am Jack A. Frost, V.P. at Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, and I am writing in support of S. 4114, a Bill to amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes.

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust supports this bill given the tremendous need for affordable, year-round housing in the Mound Desert Island region. Acadia National Park is a treasure for all to enjoy. The dramatic increase in the cost of housing has made it extremely challenging for so many individuals and families. We appreciate that the Bill to amend Public Law 99-420 will be one measure to help in providing more affordable housing. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and all you do in support of our great state.

Jack A. Frost
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust
PO Box 400
Bar Harbor, Maine
TEL: 207.667.7100
Email: jfrost@barharbor.bank

For Internal Revenue Service purposes, we request a written acknowledgement of our gift, noting that the Bank received neither services nor benefits as a result of this gift. Please include your Tax ID number and a statement about your non-profit status, if applicable. Thank you!

Corporate Headquarters & Bar Harbor Office
82 Main Street P.O. Box 400 Bar Harbor, ME 04609
Toll Free: 1888.853.7100 www.BHBT.com



SENATOR ANGUS KING, CHAIR
SENATE ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RE: Support of S. 4114, "To amend Public Law 99-420
to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine
for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes."

Dear Senator King and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce, I am writing in support of S. 4114, a Bill to amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes.

The Bar Harbor Chamber represents roughly 375 businesses on Mount Desert Island and its neighboring towns. As a gateway community to Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor has seen a dramatic increase in visitation over the past few decades. Our business community benefits greatly from this visitation, and we are fortunate to have so many dedicated entrepreneurs working to provide a great experience to their customers. The increase in visitation and popularity of our region have made affordable and workforce housing extremely difficult to find.

In short, we do not have enough workers to meet the demand of visitors during our peak season (June through October) and we do not have enough housing to adequately expand our base of seasonal employees. Furthermore, our community is severely lacking in affordable housing options for young, working-class families, including those employed at Acadia National Park.

We are now near a crisis level and a variety of options are needed to solve this complex problem. Adding inventory to the stock of affordable workforce housing is step one in addressing this crisis. In my view, enacting S.4114 would be a very important step in solving the local housing issue. By making this land available for the development of affordable workforce housing, Congress will allow local employers to bring on additional staff members and continue to run their businesses successfully.

I hope that you will support S.4114 and enable future economic success for Bar Harbor and Mount Desert Island, Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alf Anderson".

Alf Anderson
Executive Director
Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce
alf@visitbarharbor.com or 207.801.2566



May 20, 2022

U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

43 COTTAGE STREET
P.O. BOX 45
BAR HARBOR
MAINE 04609
207 288 3340
207 288 8938 fax
friendsofacadia.org

Comment for the Record on the May 11, 2022 National Parks Subcommittee Legislative Hearing
Submitted electronically to fortherecord@energy.senate.gov

Dear Chairman King and Ranking Member Daines:

Friends of Acadia would like to submit the following comments in support of S. 4114, *A Bill to Amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes.*

Friends of Acadia is a non-profit conservation organization located in Bar Harbor, Maine. The organization's mission is to preserve, protect, and promote stewardship of the outstanding natural beauty, ecological vitality, and distinctive cultural resources of Acadia National Park and the surrounding communities for the inspiration and enjoyment of current and future generations. Since 1986, Friends has worked in partnership with the National Park Service to address some of Acadia's most critical needs through private philanthropy, cooperative programs, and volunteerism.

Friends of Acadia supports S. 4114 because the lack of affordable workforce housing—year-round and seasonal—is having a significant impact on Acadia National Park, our own organization, and Acadia's gateway communities. Acadia National Park hires approximately 150 seasonal workers to help run the park between May and October. Acadia is only able to provide housing to half that number, with the other 75 seasonal employees fending for themselves in the very challenging local market that has grown tighter every year with the conversion of many units to weekly vacation rentals. Increasingly, if the park makes a job offer without also offering guaranteed housing as part of the package, the applicant will turn them down. This makes it very difficult for the National Park Service to hire to meet current needs, and it severely limits the ability for the National Park Service to grow to meet demands caused by increasing visitation.

In addition to this *seasonal* employee crunch, Acadia National Park's *year-round* staff is also feeling the pinch of the hot real estate market in the surrounding gateway communities. As long-

time employees who have always lived on Mount Desert Island retire from the National Park Service, and jobs requiring short response time to address after-hours emergencies (e.g., law enforcement rangers, plumbers, and maintenance teams) need to be filled, affordable year-round housing is non-existent. Thus, in addition to addressing the seasonal need, Acadia also must begin taking steps toward a goal of having park housing for a minimum of 5-10 year-round employees needing to live locally.

In addition to the needs of the National Park Service, Friends of Acadia typically hires approximately 15 seasonal employees working in the park each year, some for the shorter 3-month summer season, some for a longer 5 to 6-month term. It has been a struggle matching these employees to housing opportunities, and we are missing out on hiring a more diverse workforce by not being able to guarantee housing. Friends of Acadia's year-round staff also increasingly struggle to find housing in Acadia's gateway communities, and though we don't have the same "emergency response" criteria as the National Park Service, proximity to the park is certainly one of the primary reasons that motivates applicants to take jobs with Friends of Acadia.

Downeast Transportation, the operator of the popular propane-powered Island Explorer bus system that runs through Acadia National Park and the surrounding communities, annually employs between 80 and 120 bus drivers seasonally. It has been increasingly difficult for them to find enough drivers, given the lack of guaranteed affordable seasonal housing. Downeast Transportation has raised wages significantly, but it is not enough to keep up with rising prices nor the headache of searching for seasonal housing. Lack of bus drivers directly affects the visitor experience at Acadia if Downeast Transportation must cut bus routes or service hours because they need more drivers to accommodate the planned bus schedule.

Friends of Acadia supports S. 4114 because it would amend Acadia National Park's boundary legislation (P.L. 99-420) to allow for a 55-acre parcel of land in Town Hill, originally identified in the legislation for use as a solid waste transfer station, to instead be used for affordable workforce housing. S. 4114 also authorizes the Department of the Interior to retain up to 15 acres for housing and administrative needs for Acadia National Park. This bill will help Acadia National Park and the surrounding gateway communities by providing important authorization to begin addressing our housing needs.

Friends of Acadia also supports the technical amendments submitted in a statement at the Congressional hearing by National Park Service Associate Director of Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands Michael A. Caldwell to amend the underlying statute, P.L. 99-420, "by deleting the words 'by any town which so' that immediately precede 'desires' as described in Section 1 of this

bill and deleting the words 'that requests the conveyance of the land' in the bill. In addition, the Department recommends inserting the words 'to benefit the towns of Mount Desert Island' following the words 'affordable workforce housing'."

Thank you very much for the opportunity to express Friends of Acadia's support for S. 4114, *A Bill to Amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes*, as well as the technical amendments suggested by Associate Director Caldwell. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at stephanie@friendsofacadia.org or 207-370-2960.

Sincerely,



Stephanie M. Clement
Interim President and CEO

cc: The Honorable Susan Collins, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Jared Golden, U.S. House of Representatives (ME-02)
The Honorable Chellie Pingree, U.S. House of Representatives (ME-01)
Mr. Kevin Schneider, Superintendent, Acadia National Park



ISLAND HOUSING TRUST

PO Box 851 Mount Desert Maine 04660

SENATOR ANGUS KING, CHAIR
SENATE ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Island Housing Trust Support of S. 4114, "To amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes."

May 16, 2022

Dear Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and members of the Subcommittee,

As the executive director of Island Housing Trust, I am writing to express our support of S.4114 "a bill to amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes."

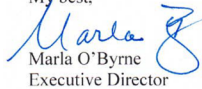
Island Housing Trust (IHT) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with a mission to promote viable, year-round communities by advancing permanent workforce housing on Mount Desert Island (MDI), Maine. Through its work, IHT has been able to offer nearly 50 year-round homeownership opportunities, enabling median-income workforce households to break the winter/summer rental cycle and provide a stable and secure home for their families, allowing where their children can stay in the same schools and thrive. Year-round housing allows our workforce to live near where they work, to build equity for their future, and to economically support our local businesses year-round. A strong year-round community benefits everyone, especially on an island, which has become starkly evident during the past two years of adapting to the Covid-19 pandemic. First responders are undeniably important to have close by, but the pandemic highlighted the critical nature of having workers available to unload trucks, stock shelves, and serve customers as well, to keep our daily lives functioning.

Year-round housing has been a dwindling resource on MDI for the past two decades, and the recent explosion of real estate sales has intensified that trend. IHT receives phone calls and emails weekly from people looking for somewhere to live. Many have been renters on the island, but their homes were sold and/or converted to seasonal rentals. Some have taken or want to take jobs here but can't find a place to live. When workers can't find housing, businesses struggle to attract and retain staff. We're seeing businesses reduce their hours during record high visitation and high demand for services. Established businesses have closed. This is why S.4114 is so important for the communities on Mount Desert Island. We need workers who provide the vital services that make a community strong and resilient, and they need homes.

In addition, IHT supports the technical amendment proposed in a statement from Michael A. Caldwell, Associate Director, NPS Park Planning, Facilities, And Lands to *"delete the words 'by any town which so' that immediately precede 'desires' as described in Section 1 of this bill and deleting the words 'that requests the conveyance of the land' in the bill. In addition, the Department recommends inserting the words 'to benefit the towns of Mount Desert Island' following the words 'affordable workforce housing'."*

Your support of S.4114 will provide hope and homes for those who work for the communities on Mount Desert Island.

My best,


Maria O'Byrne
Executive Director

League of Towns

A Collaborative Unit of Government Serving
Bar Harbor, Cranberry Isles, Ellsworth, Lamoine, Mount Desert,
Southwest Harbor, Swans Island, Tremont, Trenton, and
Acadia National Park
P.O. Box 248 Northeast Harbor, Maine 04662

Senator Angus King, Chair
Senate Energy & Natural Resource Committee
Re: Support of S. 4114 "To amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for
The conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use
For affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes.

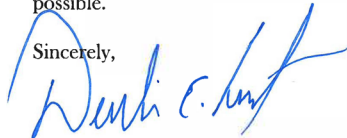
Dear Senator King and Committee Members,

I am Durlin E. Lunt Town Manager of Mount Desert, Maine, and the Chair of the Acadia Area League of Towns, and I am writing in support of S. 4114, a Bill to amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and other purposes.

The provisions of this bill will enable Acadia National Park and the local communities on Mount Desert Island to facilitate the development of affordable year-round and seasonal workforce housing for eligible residents that would be of mutual benefit to the National Park Service. The proposal to repurpose this parcel for the development of affordable workforce housing has been reviewed and was unanimously endorsed by the Bar Harbor town Council, and the selectboards of the towns of Mount Desert, Southwest Harbor, and Tremont.

As affordable workforce housing has become a universal concern for the National Park Service and the Towns on Mount Desert Island, I urge passage of this important legislation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Durlin E. Lunt
Town Manager Mount Desert, Maine
Chair Acadia Area League of Towns

**Written Statement of Raya Kenney, Founder, National Memorial to the Women Who
Worked on the Home Front Foundation
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee
May 11, 2022**

My name is Raya Kenney, and I am the founder of the National Memorial to the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation. Our goal is to get a monument built for the women who worked on the home front during WWII. A big thank you goes to Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton and Senator Duckworth who have worked tirelessly to get this project to where it is today.

This project started a decade ago when I was in 5th grade. I was assigned a project to build a model monument to someone or something that hadn't been recognized in Washington, DC. Having just watched *A League of Their Own*, a film about the women baseball players of WWII, I had a newly found passion for the women who worked during the war, filling in the jobs the men off fighting could no longer occupy.

As I delved into my research, I learned there were nearly 19 million civilian women who worked on the home front. Typically, when people think about these women, they envision the "We can do it!" poster with Rosie the Riveter proudly flexing her arm. However, the women who worked were far more than just factory workers: They were coders, pilots, lumberjacks, taxi drivers,

engineers, and mail carriers, among over 80 other jobs. I was surprised to learn that no monument existed to commemorate their dedication and contributions to the war effort.

Therefore, I chose to build my model monument to them, the 18 million women who I, before watching *A League of Their Own*, had never heard of.

I sent out letters and emails to garner support for the idea. I have received a lot of help along the way. The first big step occurred in 2016 when the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument invited me to the National Park Service's 100th-anniversary celebration to display my model monument. Everyone in attendance was incredibly supportive and administrators for the National Park Service said my design is what they look for in memorials and encouraged me to keep trying to get it built, suggesting I reach out to my representative, Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton.

Representative Holmes Norton was incredibly supportive and agreed to draft and introduce the legislation for this bill. First, I would need a "sponsor group" in order to introduce the legislation. Thus, we formed a 501(c)(3), establishing our non-profit organization in 2018. The House bill, H.R. 5068, the Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act, was introduced on November 13, 2019. The House Committee on Natural Resources ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent in March of 2020, with recommendations for the placement in Zone 1, which is near to, but not on, the National Mall. During that same month, Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Martha McSally (R-AZ), and Mike Braun (R-IN)

introduced the Senate's bipartisan companion legislation to establish the memorial (S. 3474). On October 1, 2020, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill by a voice vote.

On May 25, 2021, Senator Duckworth and Representative Holmes Norton reintroduced the legislation in the 117th Congress (S. 1814 /H.R. 3531). The bill has already made its way through the House of Representatives, passed by an overwhelming vote of 425-1 on December 1, 2021.

Recently, Senator Duckworth wrote in a letter to Chairman of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Joe Manchin (D-WV): "These women—many of whom had no expectation of working outside the home—answered the call during a global crisis to work as pilots, engineers, taxi drivers, letter carriers, code breakers, manufacturers and more. It is time that we recognize the decisive roles that they played during World War II and give honor to their service where it is long overdue." To conclude her letter, she wrote, "I urge you and your colleagues on the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to swiftly move S. 1814 through committee consideration."

As stipulated by the National Capital Planning Commission's "Steps for Establishing A Memorial in the Nation's Capital," all funding for this project would be privately raised through the foundation using crowdsourcing and corporate donations; no government funding would be used. We would look to garner support from women's groups and organizations as well as companies that first employed women during the war.

The proposed memorial design is shaped like a V to symbolize victory; a common formation during WWII at baseball games, school assemblies, and other public functions. Twenty granite blocks are used to form the V shape; the granite blocks represent the women themselves signifying their roles as the pillars of strength that kept our country going. Brought to full size, the blocks would be constructed of black granite with the titles of the jobs women filled etched on each side of each. Of course, I would be excited about working with historians and the Library of Congress to make sure we include every job that a woman held for the first time, to not exclude any group or individual. The monument is designed in a way as to not interfere with the view of any surrounding monuments or nature. It would allow for an interactive experience where people can sit on the benches and the blocks themselves and reflect on the women's important contributions, enjoy the day, and relax. I am open to suggestions from design professionals and am looking forward to hearing their ideas to further the current design proposal.

Being able to meet with women who have worked on the home front has been incredibly eye-opening as well. For example, Phyllis Gould, a 98-year-old Rosie who worked as a welder at Kaiser shipyards corresponded with me through letters and telephone calls and has said when discussing recognition of her barrier-breaking role, "I want it to be something permanent because [...] these women [...] worked and they did every job that was vacated by a guy going into the service." All the women who would be honored by this memorial were civilians, even the ones working for the military, and were not included under the GI Bill. Phyllis always said she hoped

to see some recognition in her lifetime, but sadly, she passed away earlier this year. "She has been an 'I can do it' person all her life, and she passed that on to all of us," Phyllis Gould's granddaughter, Shannon Akerstrom had said of Phyllis and nothing could be closer to the truth. While we were separated by an 80 year age gap, we held the same goal in our minds: Get the Rosie the Riveters recognized in the nation's capital. We both understood that time was of the essence. Phyllis herself never shied away from talking about many of her Rosie friends were passing away each month.

In June of 2021, Tessa Germaine, a filmmaker from California flew out to Washington DC to conduct interviews with Representative Holmes Norton, my fifth-grade teacher, and me. Together, we got to interview Mae Krier, a riveter from the war, as one of the historical figure stories. The filmmakers will spend the summer editing their footage and scheduling interviews with other women from WWII while waiting for this legislation to be moved forward. They will be following us throughout this journey of building a memorial so we can share this story of the Rosies and this memorial with the world.

Meeting Mae Krier has been one of the highlights of this almost decade-long project. Mae was a riveter who worked at Boeing on the B-17 and B-29 planes and was part of the Rosie Advocacy group that went to the White House in 2014. The trip was planned after Phyllis wrote to the then-Vice President Biden, asking if she could visit him and get a hug (she did). Sitting beside Mrs. Krier at her little kitchen table in her sweet little home in Levittown, we discussed the progress that has been made and still needs to be made in recognizing the Rosies. "We are dying daily,"

Mae said. “Soon there won’t be any of us left.” Mae mentioned how unbelievable it is that many people still do not fully know what a “Rosie the Riveter” is.

Millions of visitors come to Washington, DC annually to visit the memorials telling stories of our nation’s past, yet only one small plaque on the WWII Memorial mentions the nearly 19 million women who stepped up, rolled up their sleeves, and worked jobs that, until then, had *only* been held by men. According to experts, these women were instrumental in the Allied victory. President Eisenhower himself said, “The contribution of the women of America, whether on the farm or in the factory or in uniform, to D-Day was a sine qua non [or necessary for]...the invasion effort.”

Rosie the Riveter is an iconic symbol of the women on the home front during WWII. Yet, many of the “Rosies” themselves who held jobs that were not factory jobs are unaware that they are included in the Rosie the Riveter narrative. Thus, likely, neither their descendants nor the tens of thousands of children who come to Washington, DC to learn about our country’s history through memorials and museums know either.

Memorials are a starting place to tell a story and the women on the home front during WWII need their story to be front and center in our nation’s capital. Not only did they help win the war, but they also opened the doors for future generations of women, forever changing the course of the economy and the strength of our nation. We have a female Vice President, the largest number

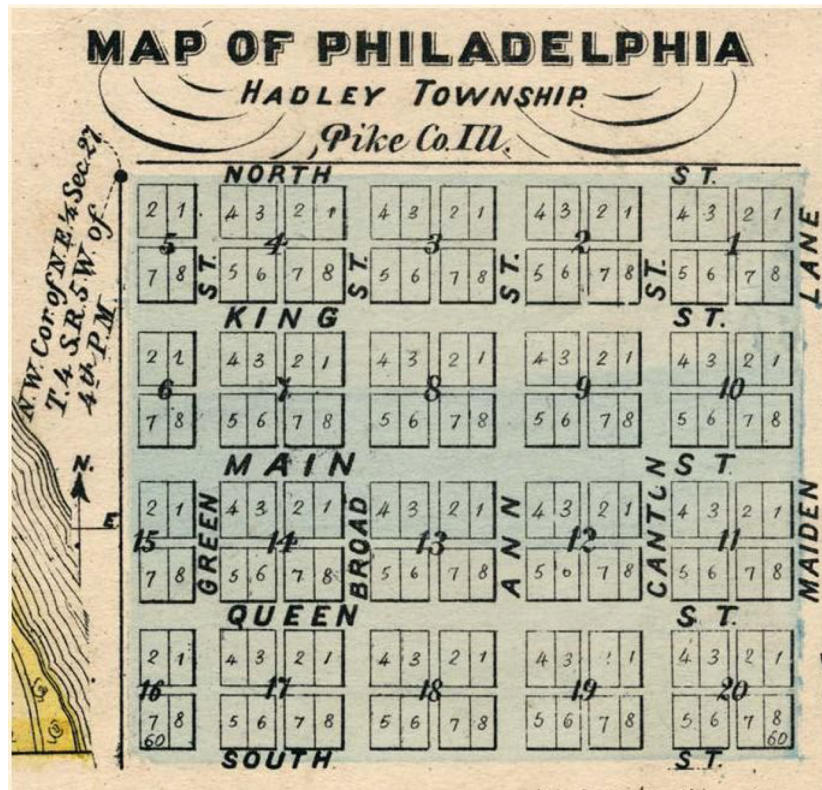
of females in Congress, and females leading Fortune 500 Companies than we have ever had before. Without the women on the home front, we would not be where we are today.

Thank you for supporting this ongoing work, and for giving me the opportunity to provide testimony to the Committee. A big thank you goes to Covington and Burling LLP for their pro bono legal assistance and advocacy support. Another big thank you goes to the Davis Brody Bond for their kind pro bono assistance in rendering the design and offering guidance. Thank you again to Representative Norton, Senator Duckworth, and all of the cosponsors of this proposed bipartisan bill.

I respectfully request that you'll consider authorizing this memorial to these incredible women and aid in giving them the recognition they deserve. Thank you so much.

Written Testimony to the Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Natural Resources on:

New Philadelphia National Historical Park Act S. 3141
May 11, 2022



Source: D.W. Ensign, Atlas Map of Pike County, Illinois, Davenport, Iowa: Andreas Lyter & Co. 1872 p 84, Illinois Historical Survey Collection, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Chairman Senator King, Ranking Member Senator Steve Daines and members of the Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Natural Resources, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the New Philadelphia Association on S. 3141, the New Philadelphia, Illinois, National Historical Park Act.

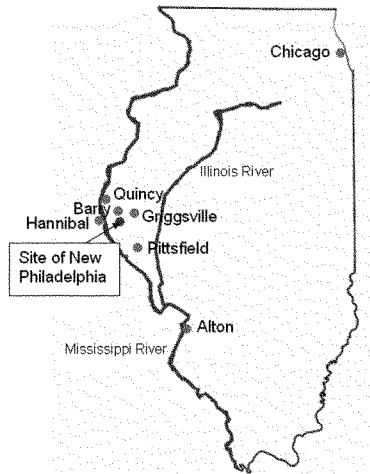
This important legislation would include New Philadelphia National Historic Landmark among the elite natural and cultural resources known as units of the National Park Service. New Philadelphia, Illinois, is the first known town in our nation platted and legally registered by an African American.

New Philadelphia

Born enslaved in South Carolina in 1777, town founder Frank McWorter was moved to Kentucky by his owner. Through his own initiative, McWorter purchased freedom for his wife Lucy in 1817, thus ensuring their soon to be born child and future children would be born free. In 1819 McWorter purchased his own freedom. He subsequently freed an additional fourteen family members, including his and Lucy's children and grandchildren born in slavery, all through his own initiative.

McWorter earned the funds to purchase freedom through various moneymaking ventures, such as mining caves for crude niter and processing the substance into salt peter, a component used to manufacture gunpowder - vital for life on the frontier and for the War of 1812. In addition, McWorter's time and skills were hired out to other pioneers, he was allowed by his owner to keep a portion of the earnings.

In addition to purchasing freedom for family members, McWorter acquired a plot of land in Pike County, in the free state of Illinois, and moved there, sight unseen, from the slave state of Kentucky in 1830 with his wife Lucy, their three free-born children and son young Frank, who had fled to Canada in 1826 to escape slavery. Frank traded his lucrative salt peter operation for young Frank's freedom.



Frank McWorter purchased additional property in Pike County with the intention of founding a town and applying the proceeds of lot sales to free children and grandchildren remaining in slavery. When he accumulated enough funds, he returned to Kentucky, risking capture by unscrupulous slave catchers who prowled the area.

Planned in advance, platted and legally registered, Frank McWorter founded the town he called Philadelphia, later known as New Philadelphia, and sold lots to African and European Americans in a region and a time of intense racial and political hostilities. New Philadelphia developed as place where formerly enslaved and free-born African Americans lived and worked alongside European Americans during one of the most racially turbulent eras of our country's history. Despite the upheaval all around them, there is no evidence of racial hostilities within New Philadelphia. Archaeological investigations conducted at the site through two three-year National Science Foundation grants found little difference in the material culture of town lots occupied by African and European Americans.

Frank and Lucy joined the Barry Baptist Church shortly after their arrival in Pike County, and in 1833, Frank and two fellow parishioners represented the congregation at a convention of Baptist churches.

Called Frank at his birth, he became known as Free Frank after his emancipation. In 1837 the Illinois Legislature granted Free Frank's appeal to change his name to McWorter, a variation of McWhorter, his owner's last name. To support his petition, Frank submitted to the legislature a document signed by several citizens from Kentucky and Illinois affirming his good character. As Frank McWorter, he had the right to, "sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, purchase and convey both real and personal property." The legislature noted that Frank intended to apply funds earned through real estate sales in the town he founded and legally registered to purchase freedom for family members left behind in slavery. While Frank McWorter could now protect his property in a court of law, his rights were restricted – as an African American he was not eligible to vote in elections.

Situated on fertile prairie land between the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers and near major transportation networks, the town grew from a small settlement of three dwellings in the 1840s and peaked in the 1860s with as many as 160 residents. However, when the Hannibal and Naples Railroad bypassed the town in 1869 and other towns were established in the area, New Philadelphia fell into a decline from which it could not recover. A few families remained, but most of the townspeople moved away by the late 1940s. Once a thriving town, New Philadelphia is now an archaeological site with only a few building foundations visible on the landscape.

Frank McWorter's gravesite was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1988. New Philadelphia was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005 for its archaeological potential to provide nationally significant information about the lifeways and relationships of African Americans and Europeans in a pioneer setting. In 2009 the town site was designated a National Historic Landmark for its high archaeological integrity to potentially yield information of major scientific importance and to affect archaeological theories, concepts and ideas.

New Philadelphia was included in the National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program in 2013 for its participation in the movement to resist and end slavery by concealing, harboring and sometimes accompanying African-American freedom seekers to Canada.

New Philadelphia and the McWorter family are represented in the Smithsonian Museum of American History's "Many Voices, One Nation" permanent exhibition, for their contributions to the settling of the American frontier.

The New Philadelphia Association hosts the complimentary Likes Lecture Series every summer. This year's program presented via Zoom technology features:

"The New Philadelphia and Lincoln University Connection"

Presenter: Brigadier General Donald Scott, retired

"McWorter's New Philadelphia and Other Settler Communities in western Illinois"

Presenter: Dr. Nancy Davis

"Women of New Philadelphia"

Presenter: Claire Martin

"The New Philadelphia AR2 mobile app t the New Philadelphia National Historic Landmark"

Presenter: Jon Amakawa

The National Park Service "Teaching with Historic Places" program offers educators on-line lesson plans to supplement history instruction for middle school students. Links to the Teaching with Historic places Lesson Plan are included in the "Further Information" section of this testimony.

The New Philadelphia Association collaborates with the Looking for Lincoln group, the Abraham Lincoln Home, Jim's Journey African-American Museum, the Quincy and Adams County Historical Societies and the Morgan County Historical Society Underground Railroad Committee.



Aerial overview of the New Philadelphia site 2010
(Source: Dr. Tommy Hailey)

New Philadelphia fulfills the stringent criteria required for inclusion in the National Park Service system: National significance, suitability feasibility, cost and direct National Park Service management.

- **New Philadelphia Meets the Criteria for National Significance**

New Philadelphia's **national significance** was affirmed by listing in National Register of Historic Places, designation as a National Historic Landmark and membership in the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program.

Illustrated with documents, images, family heirlooms and archaeologically recovered artifacts, New Philadelphia is included in the Smithsonian Museum of American History's "Many Voices, One Nation," exhibit. The McWorter family represents those who found refuge and opportunity as they participated in the settlement of the western Illinois frontier.

- **New Philadelphia Meets the Criteria for Suitability**

New Philadelphia fulfills the requirement for **suitability**: **there is no site in the National Park Service comparable to New Philadelphia.** Many sites associated with African-American history have been eliminated from America's landscape, and other sites are not adequately preserved, interpreted or

represented in the National Park System. Sites that focus on issues of freedom and prosperity are even more difficult to find, less than 7%, are directly associated with African-American history.

Through the findings of New Philadelphia, life of African Americans outside the plantation can be better understood and information about rural agricultural communities on the western frontier can provide insight about the lifeways and interactions of racially and culturally diverse groups and how they helped shape American history. The findings at New Philadelphia hold the potential to provide information about the use of material possessions, the types of dwellings and structures townspeople built and occupied, the type of objects they discarded and how all those factors constructed and challenged racial identities and reflected social ambitions.

The site's high degree of archaeological integrity holds the potential to yield information of major scientific importance and to affect archaeological theories, concepts and ideas to a major degree about the lifeways and relationships of African American and European Americans in a pioneer setting.

New Philadelphia is the only African-American National Historic Landmark in the Midwest associated with the theme of archaeology; the documented wealth of archaeology in New Philadelphia and the lack of adequately preserved and interpreted sites fulfill the suitability criteria.

- **New Philadelphia Meets the Criterion for Feasibility.**

Visitors are drawn to New Philadelphia for the powerful story of a family who found refuge and helped settle the Illinois frontier, where they established a community that welcomed African Americans and European Americans alike.

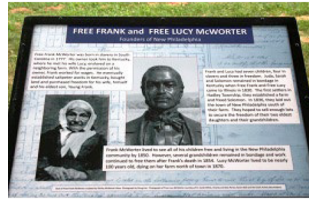
Lack of physical remains of the town does not diminish the visitor experience as demonstrated by other units of the National Park Service. For example, there are no physical remains present at the Sand Creek Massacre site in Colorado, nor are physical remains present at the African Burial Ground in New York's Manhattan. At Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where United Airlines Flight 93 crashed during the terrorist attack on our country in 2001, markers commemorate the bravery of the passengers and crew. Many battlefield sites protected and preserved by the National Park Service are situated in remote areas and lack physical evidence of the conflicts that occurred there.

The New Philadelphia compact 42-acre site is manageable, uncomplicated by the presence of buildings and other structures that require conservation. Most archaeological resources are preserved below the soil's surface, and only a few building foundations are visible on the landscape. Administration, maintenance and long-term protection of the site can be accomplished at a reasonable cost.

Cost of managing the site can be mitigated by management with the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, located in nearby Springfield, Illinois. Management sharing is a common practice of the National Park Service.

While the world has changed vastly since Frank McWorter founded his town, today's visitors enjoy a panorama little changed from the time New Philadelphia flourished. The surrounding, gently rolling hills are covered with prairie grass, stands of trees and agricultural fields. The site retains an excellent integrity of location and setting, the feeling is somewhat remote.

At New Philadelphia, visitors can enjoy a self-guided visually and audibly enhanced, state-of-the-art augmented virtual reality tour. The app is easily down loaded at the site to hand-held electronic devices, cost free. Guided tours conducted by New Philadelphia Association members can be arranged.



Illustrated interpretive panels sheltered in an open sided pavilion narrate the compelling story of the McWorter family, New Philadelphia and its citizens. The pavilion was built in collaboration with local businesses, the nearby John Woods Community College and a grant from the Illinois Electric Cooperative.

The local community's enthusiastic support of National Park Service status for New Philadelphia was demonstrated at a public meeting held prior to a feasibility study conducted in 2016. More than 100

attending area residents indicated nearly unanimous support, welcoming the commitment of New Philadelphia's story to the national collective memory as a unit of the National Park Service and for potential revenue generated by tourists supporting local industries.

Congressman Darin LaHood introduced H.R. 820, legislation similar to S. 3141, to the House of Representatives and received more than 200 letters of support from state and local legislators, business professionals, organizations, educators, current and former area residents. The House Committee on Natural Resources unanimously passed the legislation, which is currently awaiting a vote on the House floor.

Among the letters of support received for H.R. 820, Professor David Bennett wrote:

I live in Jacksonville, Florida where I work as a US History professor at the University of North Florida. I cannot overstate the importance of using historical markers to promote the nature of the nation's black heritage. The reality is that historical markers are an integral tool used by historians to document meaningful historical events. As of today, Americans face a major public push to shape our public spaces to be more reflective of the diverse backgrounds we all share. So many of our historical markers emphasize the nation's complicated relationship to white supremacist ideals. We need to change that relationship. We need to use markers to document the diverse American experience that we all have in our ancestry. Americans crave this new reflected public space, and you are in a unique position to make this happen.

Former Pike County resident, Walter A. Smart, wrote in favor of New Philadelphia's inclusion in the NPS:

I wanted to write to you and offer my support, being in favor of adding New Philadelphia to the National Park System. ...The property already has an established history and it seems only logical to pursue this status next...I grew up in Pike County Illinois and have visited the NP site many times. Its history is quite unique and Frank McWorter certainly deserves an honored place in our country's history...I live in Michigan, my family continues to operate 2 farms in Newburg and Detroit townships in Pike. The county would certainly benefit from any federal designation such as this and could only be viewed as socially progressive...just as it was when Mr. McWorter planned this community.

Illinois State Senator Jill Tracy wrote in support of New Philadelphia:

No site is comparable to New Philadelphia in the National Park System...As a unit of the National Park Service, New Philadelphia will contribute to a more complete history of our nation. Federal protection will ensure that archaeological evidence held in the soil of New Philadelphia may significantly contribute to new ideas and theories about how to study race relations over a one-hundred-year period.

State Senator Steve McClure wrote in support of New Philadelphia's inclusion in the National Park Service:

...Its founder, Frank McWorter, was a remarkable American who deserves a brighter national spotlight. As a unit of the National Park System, New Philadelphia would gain greater notoriety and continue to be a place to inspire future generations. It's important to New Philadelphia and the surrounding communities to preserve and protect Frank McWorter's legacy.

- **Direct Management by the National Park Service is Crucial for New Philadelphia.**

The New Philadelphia Association, a grass roots organization, was formed in 1996 to protect the site from threatening highway expansion, however, **long term management by the New Philadelphia Association is not feasible**; the board is aging. Many of the current board members were part of the original organizers; retirees now comprise the majority of the association. **There is no future entity to interpret and protect the site. Direct Management by the National Park Service is crucial for the long-term preservation of New Philadelphia.**

Direct management by the National Park Service would ensure permanent protection and preservation of the site and its archaeological resources through enforcement by stringent, federally protective legislation regulating development and future excavations. National Park Service generated, sponsored, published literature and advertising in a wide variety of media and Internet resources would attract visitors from across the nation and around the world. **The power of association with the National Park Service far exceeds the resources available to current management.**

It is the intent of the New Philadelphia Association (NPA) to convey the property owned by the NPA to the National Park Service cost free.

New Philadelphia exemplifies ambition, dedication and love for family, values treasured by all Americans. By including New Philadelphia among the national treasures designated units of the National Park Service, the story of our country will be more complete and accurate and will recognize the accomplishments and contributions of African Americans to the development of our nation.

Now is the time to raise high our national collective spirit and stoke the flames of hope and unity by recognizing the national historical significance of New Philadelphia by including the site as a unit of the National Park Service. As fifth generation descendant, Gerald McWorter, wrote:

The 21st century is a great time to be alive and full of exciting visions of the future. New Philadelphia can be an inspiration. Let us embrace that inspiration and build the future of love and understanding, of economic development and democracy, a future of global peace.

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The New Philadelphia Association has been granted non-profit status under Sec. 501 C.3 of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) EIN#37-1379430. Accordingly, contributions are deductible for federal income tax purposes under Sec. 170 of the Code.

For further information on New Philadelphia:

New Philadelphia Association website: newphiladelphiaill.org
www.histarch.illinois.edu/np/archaeology.html
heritage.umd.edu/CHRSWeb/NewPhiladelphia/NewPhiladelphia.htm
 New Philadelphia Association on Facebook
 New Philadelphia Archaeology Project on Facebook

For more information on the McWorter family:

www.mcworter.net

Books:

D. W. Ensign, *Atlas Map of Pike County, Illinois*. Andreas, Lyter & Co., Davenport, Iowa, 1872.

Charles C. Chapman, *History of Pike County, Illinois*. Charles C. Chapman & Co., Chicago, Illinois, 1880.

Grace E. Matteson, *"Free Frank" McWorter and the "Ghost Town" of New Philadelphia*. Pike County Historical Society, Pittsfield, 1964.

Helen McWorter Simpson, *Makers of History*. Laddie B. Warren, Evansville, Indiana, 1981.

Juliet E. K. Walker, *Free Frank: A Black Pioneer on the Antebellum Frontier*. University Press of Kentucky, Lexington, 1983 (reissue edition 1995). **We also have copies of this for sale, contact us for details.**

Paul A. Shackel, *New Philadelphia: An Archaeology of Race in the Heartland*. University of California Press, Berkeley, 2010.

Chris Fennell, *Broken Chains and Subverted Plans: Ethnicity, Race, and Commodities*. University Press of Florida, 2017.

Gerald A. McWorter and Kate Williams-McWorter, *New Philadelphia*, Path Press, Inc. 2018.

Lesson Plan:

New Philadelphia: A Multi-racial Town on the Illinois Frontier, National Park Service Teaching with Historic Places" [Twhp-Lessons_130newphiladelphia.pdf \(nps.gov\)](https://www.nps.gov/whhp/lessons/130newphiladelphia.pdf).

From Freedom Seeker to Town Founder, Free Rank McWorter and New Philadelphia
[Hour History Lesson: From Freedom Seeker to Town-Founder, Free Frank McWorter and New Philadelphia \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](https://www.nps.gov/whhp/lesson/lesson-from-freedom-seeker-to-town-founder-free-rank-mcworter-and-new-philadelphia).



The Honorable Angus King, Jr.
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks
Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Steve Daines
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on National Parks
Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

May 6, 2022

Dear Chairman King and Ranking Member Daines:

I am writing on behalf of the North Country Trail Association, Ice Age Trail Alliance, Connecticut Forest & Park Association and the Appalachian Mountain Club to express support for the National Scenic Trails Parity Act, S. 2964, introduced by Senator Baldwin. Thank you for holding a legislative hearing to consider this bill on May 11. We respectfully request that our letter be made a part of the hearing record.

S. 2964 would grant unit status to three National Scenic Trails (NSTs) that are part of the National Park System but do not have unit status: the Ice Age National Scenic Trail, the North Country National Scenic Trail, and the New England National Scenic Trail. Providing unit status for these three trails would create administrative clarity and improved management, and ensure that all of the National Park Service's NSTs are treated in the same manner.

Although Director's Order 45, which outlines the NPS policies and procedures for NSTs, says all trails should be treated the same, we repeatedly see the inequities in how opportunities and funding are allocated. These three trails have been denied funding for the development of critical planning documents like comprehensive management plans and foundation documents. All three have been denied funding for natural resource management and capacity due to their non-unit status.

Lack of unit status has excluded these trails from major promotional opportunities. The North Country Trail was left out of an important partnership between the National Park Service and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced on April 19, 2022. This partnership is intended to provide access to millions of people to National Parks and it is incredibly disappointing that the North Country Trail, which runs across all of Michigan and is a significant recreation access component, is not part of that effort. In similar fashion, the New England Trail was not included in the "Find your Adventure" map launched when the National Park Service celebrated its centennial. Even today, if you go to <https://findyourpark.com/> and search Connecticut or Massachusetts, you will only find parks or the other national scenic trail that is currently designated as a unit. The Ice Age NST local office in Cross Plains, WI is forced to dedicate significant funding for NPS maps, literature and other media that would otherwise be supported by NPS services that only support units of the System. S. 2964 would remedy these unfortunate situations and several more.

The other three National Scenic Trails managed by the National Park Service – the Appalachian, Natchez Trace, and Potomac Heritage NSTs – enjoy full access to these resources as official units of the National Park

System, though there is no clear or consistent legal, policy, or administrative rationale documented for separating the NSTs in this manner. The lack of unit status continues to impact the three non-unit trails and the partner organizations that manage them and is limiting recreation access and enhanced resources to millions of Americans. Director's Order 45 does not go far enough or deep enough to address these NPS internal systems-based issues.

The North Country, Ice Age and New England National Scenic Trails span 6,015 miles across ten states - Connecticut, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Wisconsin. 53 million Americans live within a two hour drive of these trails, making them among the most easily accessible National Park units in the entire System. The North Country, Ice Age and New England NSTs serve as a valuable resource for outdoor enthusiasts because they provide easy access to recreation for millions of Americans, and they serve as a link between the national park system and National Forests, State and County public land and thousands of local communities, fueling a recreation economy.

These trails hosted thousands of new visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic, and provided invaluable opportunities for the public to connect with nature. In 2021, thousands of volunteers from across the country contributed well over 140,000 hours towards the completion, maintenance and protection of these trails. These volunteers have poured their lives into their trails, and deserve to call them units of the National Park System.

Although the Director of the National Park Service has the authority to make this change administratively, the agency has held back from doing so with no clear explanation. It is clear that Congress must act now. S. 2964 will provide a simple, commonsense and important change in the administrative status and management of these NSTs, and would ensure that existing agency resources are administered in a fair and streamlined way. At a time when more and more Americans are looking to safely and responsibly enjoy the outdoors, the National Scenic Trails Parity Act honors our great American landscapes by ensuring that all of the National Park Service's National Scenic Trails have parity in access to opportunities and resources.

Thank you for considering this important legislation. We look forward to working with you to advance it towards enactment.

Sincerely,

Andrea Ketchmark



Executive Director
North Country Trail Association

Eric Hammerling



Executive Director
Connecticut Forest & Park Association

Mike Wollmer



Executive Director and CEO
Ice Age Trail Alliance

Susan Arnold



Interim President and CEO
Appalachian Mountain Club



FOR THE RECORD: 5/11/22 SENR Cmte NP Subcmte Hrg on S.2367

CONTACT: Elly Cowan, Preservation Maryland
3600 Clipper Mill Rd Ste 248, Baltimore, MD 21211
ecowan@presmd.org | 443-386-4609

May 11, 2022

The Honorable Joe Manchin
 Chairman
 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
 U.S. Senate
 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso
 Ranking Member
 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
 U.S. Senate
 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write to express strong support for S.2367, *The Frederick Jobs and Historic Preservation Training Center Land Acquisition Act*, introduced by Senators Ben Cardin (MD) and Chris Van Hollen (MD) and in the House of Representatives by Representative David Trone (MD-06).

This legislation will allow the National Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center (HPTC) located in Frederick, Maryland to acquire nearby land from the City of Frederick to establish a larger historic trades' workforce development training center and workshop. This land acquisition will allow the National Park Service (NPS) to expand its trades' training capacity and more efficiently achieve its mission nationwide.

A Cost-Effective Program Saving America's Heritage and Training the Next Generation

HPTC, located in Frederick, Maryland, is a 44-year old program of the NPS which supports the operations of the Service through execution of preservation projects, training of historic

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tradespeople and workforce development initiatives. The program is a critical component of the NPS' ability to meet the standards and requirements set forth in the National Historic Preservation Act.

Uniquely, the HPTC is a fee-for-service program of the NPS and its expansion and acquisition of this land will have no ongoing fiscal impact on the federal budget as positions at the Center are funded through contractual work with park units and partner federal agencies through existing appropriations (ex. Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP) hires the HPTC to rehab windows in a historic building using existing NPS appropriation to GNMP). As a result, it remains one of the most cost-effective ways to care for federally owned historic resources, as well as train current NPS employees and the next generation of historic tradespeople.

Workforce Development Needs & Great American Outdoors Act Implementation

Sustainable growth and new initiatives led by HPTC now render its existing space inadequate. In 2018, the Center worked to establish the Traditional Trades Apprenticeship Program, a paid, service-learning experience which provides hands-on training for young adults and recent veterans. The trainees meet in Frederick, Maryland for orientation and then disperse to parks across the country for their service and training. With public and private support, this program is poised to grow significantly to meet the high demand for traditional tradespeople.

Additionally, with the recent passage of the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), the HPTC role as a trainer of Park Service tradespeople has become even more important. The current concept is to utilize the HPTC to establish Maintenance Action Teams (MATs) which will deploy around the nation to help train existing NPS staff to complete and oversee complex rehabilitation projects. The ability to deliver on this – which will reduce federal costs – is hampered by the lack of space at the HPTCs current headquarters and training facility.

Critical Support Role to National Parks & Beyond

In 2020, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), an independent federal agency that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of our nation's historic resources, convened a *Traditional Trades Training Task Force* which adopted a lengthy policy statement on the future of this field. In part, that policy statement explained that,

Traditional trades are critically important to preserving the heritage of our historic built environment for future generations. They also can translate into secure, well-paying jobs that help revitalize communities both physically and economically. Expanding training opportunities and networks in the traditional trades is essential. It is critical to do what we can to enable this important field to expand into pathways that are available to the American worker.

This legislation builds on the recommendations of the ACHP policy statement and invests in the future of America's historic places, National Parks, and a new generation of traditional

tradespeople. Without trained and talented hands – we simply cannot maintain our nation’s most important and irreplaceable heritage. Therefore, we urge you to advance this legislation as a step towards investing and securing the future of our past.

Respectfully,

Preservation Maryland
The Campaign for Historic Trades
National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers
National Preservation Partners Network
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Preservation Action

SENATOR ANGUS KING, CHAIR
SENATE ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RE: Support of S. 4114, "To amend Public Law 99-420
to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine
for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes."

Dear Senator King and Committee Members,

I am Rhonda L Sawyer, and I am writing in support of S. 4114, a Bill to amend Public Law 99-420 to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Maine for use for affordable workforce housing, and for other purposes.

Our state and in particular our area near Acadia National Park is in serious need for affordable housing to keep families in our area. Currently our workforce is in need of housing so businesses can stay open to serve this very busy community.

NAME: Rhonda L Sawyer
ORGANIZATION/BUSINESS YOU REPRESENT: Financial Institution
CONTACT INFORMATION: C/O 103 Main Street, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

**STATEMENT OF RANDY MOORE, CHIEF OF THE USDA FOREST SERVICE
TO THE
UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS
Regarding
S. 3551, Gateway Community and Recreation Enhancement Act
May 11, 2022**

Chairman King, Ranking Member Daines, and Members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, regarding S. 3551, the Gateway Community and Recreation Enhancement Act.

The USDA Forest Service manages 155 national forests and 20 national grasslands, comprising 193 million acres in 41 states and Puerto Rico. Outdoor recreation is a significant use of these lands, which contain three million acres of lakes, 400,000 miles of streams, 122 Wild and Scenic Rivers for rafting, kayaking and other watersports, and 159,000 miles of trails for horseback riding, hiking, snowmobiling, mountain biking, and more.

The Forest Service is deeply committed to connecting all Americans to the outdoors, and the agency values the important role played by gateway communities as partners in connecting visitors to recreation opportunities in the national forests and grasslands. Outdoor recreation attracts people to visit, live, and work in gateway and rural communities and supports the health, well-being, and economic vitality of those communities. Recreation on National Forest System lands contributes more than \$13.5 billion to America's gross domestic product and supports more than 161,000 full- and part-time jobs, the vast majority of which are in gateway and rural communities.¹

Moreover, recreation on National Forest System lands sustains more private sector jobs than any other Forest Service program and provides the greatest economic stimulus for many local communities adjacent to or within the National Forest System. Outdoor recreation opportunities and amenities are consistently ranked as one of the primary reasons people move to rural towns and can be a leading contributor to small town economies.

In fiscal year 2020, the number of recreation visits to the National Forest System rose to 168 million, which represents a 12% increase compared to 2019. Annual visitation to national forests and grasslands increases to 450 million visitors if we account for the number of people who pass through these beautiful forests on scenic roads and byways. Recreation pressure has been particularly significant on national forests close to urban areas. Congestion at very popular sites has increasingly become an issue, even at some dispersed recreation sites.

Section 3 of this bill would require USDA to select five national forests for a pilot program to make visitation data available to the public, including data and resources publicly available from

¹ 2020 National Visitor Use Monitoring survey. These numbers reflect total benefits (direct, indirect, and induced).

existing nongovernmental platforms. The bill would allow the data to be provided directly by the agency or indirectly through its partners. Within five years of enactment, the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior would be required to select an additional 80 units for this program. Section 3 also would require the Secretaries to share information about lesser-known recreation sites through a variety of media platforms to disperse visitation among recreation sites.

The Forest Service currently collects visitor use data and monitors trends in visitor use annually through the National Visitor Use Monitoring program and makes these visitation data publicly available on its website. To the extent this bill would require the agency to provide real-time visitor use data to the public, the agency would like to work with the bill sponsor to address technical concerns. USDA would like to work with the Subcommittee and bill sponsors to better understand the visitation data requirements in Section 3 and to make technical improvements to the bill.

Section 4 seeks to enhance understanding of the economic impacts of visitation on gateway communities and to identify the needs of those communities, such as housing and other infrastructure necessary to accommodate and manage growing levels of visitation. The bill would require the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to seek to meet the identified needs through a variety of mechanisms under existing law, such as financial assistance, cooperative agreements, and public-private partnerships.

USDA recognizes the important role and needs of gateway communities in sustaining the recreation economy. We are helping to invest in community wellbeing, grow the outdoor recreation economy, and enable equitable access to the outdoors. Recently, we partnered with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Northern Border Regional Commission to launch the Recreation Economy for Rural Communities program, which provides planning assistance to help rural communities leverage outdoor recreation as an economic development strategy. USDA Forest Service, Rural Development, and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture are also collaborating to target the recreation economies of rural forest gateway communities, providing technical expertise and funding to develop recreation infrastructure and capacity beyond the boundaries of the National Forests. We have identified a strong need to engage across boundaries in more comprehensive recreation planning to identify sustainable solutions to the growing demand for outdoor recreation on public lands.

USDA supports the goals of S. 3551 to improve visitation data, provide better information about the wide range of available recreation opportunities, and work in partnership with gateway communities to undertake comprehensive recreation planning. We would welcome an opportunity to work with the Subcommittee and bill sponsors to improve upon the current legislation in support of these goals.