

ABRAHAM LINCOLN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
AMENDMENT ACT

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016.—Ordered to be printed

Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 1662]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 1662) to include Livingston County, the city of Jonesboro in Union County, and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County, Illinois, to the Lincoln National Heritage Area, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of S. 1662 is to include Livingston County, the city of Jonesboro in Union County, and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County, Illinois, to the Lincoln National Heritage Area.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

The Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area was established in 2008 and preserves the rich legacy of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. The region includes 42 counties across central Illinois, stretching from the Indiana border to the Mississippi River, and is one of the largest heritage areas in the nation. President Lincoln spent 30 years of his life in central Illinois (1831–1861), accomplishing a body of work that still resonates today in the state’s historic sites, artifacts, landscapes, buildings, and folklore.

While the 42 counties that make up the Heritage Area provide opportunities for all people to explore Lincoln’s history in Illinois, there are three counties that are currently not among this network that are key to the Lincoln heritage. Livingston County, Union County, and Stephenson County are pivotal to his legacy, as these areas are where Lincoln developed his legal career within the

Eighth Judicial District. These areas also served as the sites of the historic Lincoln-Douglas debates. This boundary expansion to include these counties will increase opportunities for Illinois visitors and residents alike to experience the full measure of Lincoln's legacy.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 1662 was introduced by Senators Kirk and Durbin on June 24, 2015. The Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on the measure on June 15, 2016.

In the House of Representatives, Representative Kinzinger introduced similar legislation to S. 1662, H.R. 2879, on June 24, 2015.

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources met in open business session on July 13, 2016, and ordered S. 1662 favorably reported.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in open business session on July 13, 2016, by a majority voice vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 1662.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title

Section 1 contains the short title.

Section 2. Adjustment of boundaries of Lincoln National Heritage Area

Subsection (a) adjusts the boundary of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area to include Livingston County, the city of Jonesboro in Union County, and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County, Illinois.

Subsection (b) requires the Secretary of the Interior to update the official map of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area to reflect the changes.

COST AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

The following estimate of the costs of this measure has been provided by the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 1, 2016.

Hon. LISA MURKOWSKI,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1662, the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Amendment Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Jon Sperl.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL.

Enclosure.

S. 1662—Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Amendment Act

S. 1662 would modify the boundary of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area in Illinois to include an additional county and two cities. It also would require the National Park Service (NPS) to update its map of the heritage area to reflect the boundary adjustment.

Based on information from the NPS, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1662 would have no significant impact on the agency's costs, which would be subject to appropriation. Enacting the legislation would have no effect on direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 1662 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 1662 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jon Sperl. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

REGULATORY IMPACT EVALUATION

In compliance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee makes the following evaluation of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out S. 1662. The bill is not a regulatory measure in the sense of imposing Government-established standards or significant economic responsibilities on private individuals and businesses.

No personal information would be collected in administering the program. Therefore, there would be no impact on personal privacy.

Little, if any, additional paperwork would result from the enactment of S. 1662, as ordered reported.

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING

S. 1662, as ordered reported, does not contain any congressionally directed spending items, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The testimony provided by the National Park Service at the June 15, 2016 Subcommittee on National Parks hearing on S. 1662 follows:

STATEMENT OF DR. STEPHANIE TOOTHMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CULTURAL RESOURCES, PARTNERSHIPS, AND SCIENCE, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the Department of the Interior on S. 1662, a bill to expand the boundary of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area (NHA), and for other purposes.

The Department recommends that the committee defer action on S. 1662 until such time as the National Park Service (NPS) determines if this proposed expansion is appropriate. The NHA was authorized on May 10, 2008, to help tell the stories of the places that President Abraham Lincoln lived for almost 30 years. These important sites include the Lincoln Log Cabin, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, and the Lincoln Home National Historic Site. The NHA includes 42 counties in Central Illinois. The Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition (LFLHC), a non-profit organization, was authorized to manage the NHA, which is a consortium of Illinois communities and sites that share the legacy of Abraham Lincoln.

Prior to beginning any effort to designate an area as a national heritage area, the NPS recommends that interested community members or organizations undertake a feasibility study to assess several factors, including: whether the landscape has an assemblage of natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources that, when linked together, tell a nationally important story; whether an organization exists with the financial and organizational capacity to coordinate heritage area activities; and, whether the level of support for designation exists within the region.

The LFLHC completed their feasibility study in 2002. The NPS recommends that the LFLHC submit an addendum to their feasibility study that includes a boundary justification for the inclusion of Livingston County, the City of Jonesboro in Union County, and the City of Freeport in Stephenson County, Illinois. The addendum will document that the LFLHC has reached out to these communities and that there is public support for the inclusion of their cities and county in the boundary of the NHA. Additionally, the addendum will ensure that the proposed inclusion of these cities and county supports the original intent of the NHA.

Once the LFLHC completes the amended feasibility study, the NPS will undertake our evaluation as expeditiously as possible. The NPS recommends that the committee defer action until the feasibility study amendment is completed and the NPS can make a determination on the proposed expansion.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you or other members of the subcommittee may have.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the original bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

CONSOLIDATED NATURAL RESOURCES ACT OF 2008

Public Law 110-229

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TITLE IV—NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

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Subtitle C—Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area

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SEC. 443. DESIGNATION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

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(b) BOUNDARIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The National Heritage Area shall consist of sites as designated by the management plan within a core area located in Central Illinois, consisting of Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Dewitt, Douglas, Edgar, Fayette, Fulton, Greene, Hancock, Henderson, Jersey, Knox, LaSalle, *Livingston*, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Madison, Mason, McDonough, McLean, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan, Moultrie, Peoria, Piatt, Pike, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott, Shelby, Tazewell, Vermillion, Warren and Woodford counties, *the city of Jonesboro in Union County, and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County.*

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