

AMACHE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ACT

JULY 22, 2021.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRIJALVA, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 2497]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2497) to establish the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendments and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Amache National Historic Site Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map entitled “Amache National Historical Site Proposed Boundary”, numbered 100/175348 and dated July 2021.

(2) NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.—The term “National Historic Site” means the Amache National Historic Site established by section 3(a).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. AMACHE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to subsection (c), there is established the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a unit of the National Park System.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the National Historic Site is to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit of present and future generations resources associated with—

(1) the incarceration of civilians of Japanese ancestry during World War II at Amache, also known as the Granada Relocation Center, and the military service of center incarcerated;

(2) public reaction in the State of Colorado to the incarceration of Japanese Americans, including the position of Governor Ralph Carr and the local community; and

(3) the transition of the incarcerated and their descendants following the closure of the center and resettlement in the State of Colorado and other States.

(c) DETERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY.—The National Historic Site shall not be established until the date on which the Secretary determines that a sufficient quantity of land or interests in land has been acquired to constitute a manageable park unit.

(d) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after the Secretary makes a determination under subsection (c), the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register notice of the establishment of the National Historic Site.

(e) BOUNDARY; MAP.—

(1) BOUNDARY.—The boundary of the National Historic Site shall be as generally depicted on the Map.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(f) LAND ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may acquire any land or interests in land located within the boundary of the Camp Amache National Historic Landmark, as generally depicted on the Map, by—

(1) donation;

(2) purchase from a willing seller with donated or appropriated Funds; or

(3) exchange.

(g) ADDITION TO BOUNDARY.—Any lands or interests in land acquired under paragraph (1) shall be included within the boundary of the National Historic Site.

(h) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer the National Historic Site in accordance with—

(A) this Act; and

(B) the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System.

(2) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(A) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to the Secretary for this purpose, the Secretary shall prepare a general management plan for the National Historic Site in accordance with section 100502 of title 54, United States Code.

(B) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—On completion of the general management plan under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives the general management plan prepared under that subparagraph.

(i) ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES.—For the purposes of ensuring the preservation, protection, and proper management of the site and associated resources, the Secretary may establish facilities for administration, visitor services, and curation of personal property, outside the boundary of, and in the vicinity of, the National Historic Site.

(j) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into agreements with—

(1) the public or private entities for the purpose of establishing and operating facilities outside of the boundary of the National Historic Site for administration, visitor services and curation of personal property; and

(2) other public or private entities for the purposes of carrying out this Act.

(k) EFFECT ON WATER RIGHTS.—Except as provided for in subsection (l), nothing in this Act shall affect—

(1) the use, allocation, ownership, or control, in existence on the date of the enactment of any water, water right, or any other valid existing right;

(2) any vested absolute or decreed conditional water right in existence on the date of the enactment;

(3) any interstate water compact in existence on the date of the enactment;

or

(4) State jurisdiction over any water law.

(l) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND APPURTENANCES.—

(1) The town of Granada, Colorado, shall maintain responsibility for the operation and maintenance of all water infrastructure, systems and appurtenances located within the boundary of the National Historic Site in existence on the date of enactment of this Act, including but not limited to wells, pumps, tanks, water lines, valves, and water treatment facilities.

(2) The Secretary shall provide the town of Granada, Colorado, with access to those areas of the National Historic Site determined as necessary for the operation and maintenance of water infrastructure and appurtenances.

(3) The Secretary may permit the city of Granada, Colorado, to construct or install new water infrastructure, systems and appurtenances consistent with applicable laws, limited only to those areas determined in subsection (i)(2), and in a manner that ensures the preservation, protection, and proper management of the National Historic Site.

(4) At such time that all water infrastructure, systems and appurtenances located within the boundary of the National Historic Site are no longer utilized by the city of Granada, Colorado, associated improvements and associated water rights may be acquired through donation to and made part of the National Historic Site in a condition satisfactory to the Secretary.

Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to establish the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a Unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 2497 is to establish the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a Unit of the National Park System.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Following the United States' entry into World War II after the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066,¹ forcibly removing more than 120,000 people, primarily of Japanese descent, mostly from the West Coast, to ten remote internment centers across the nation.

The Granada Relocation Center, commonly known as Camp Amache, covered approximately 10,500 acres around the Town of Granada in Southeastern Colorado and was the only center located in the State of Colorado. Although Amache was the smallest of the relocation centers, it became the tenth largest city in Colorado with more than 10,000 people passing through the camp between 1942 and 1945, nearly two-thirds of whom were American citizens. Unlike the other Western governors, who largely adopted the popular anti-Japanese sentiment of the time, Governor Ralph Carr of Colorado opposed interning American citizens and welcomed evacuees in his state, urging acceptance and respectful treatment for Japanese Americans.²

As the majority of Amache internees were seasoned farm workers from California's central valleys, agriculture was the main industry, and Amache became a productive agricultural center that produced significant amounts of crops such as potatoes, corn, and wheat. In addition, more than ten percent of Amache internees served in the military in the highly decorated 442nd Regimental Combat Team, in the Women's Army Corps, and as nurses and instructors.³

H.R. 2497 establishes the Amache National Historic Site to preserve and protect the site, and interpret resources associated with the incarceration of Japanese Americans at Amache. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands for inclusion in the National Historic Site, as well as personal property associated with the incarceration of Japanese Americans at the site.

¹ EXEC. ORDER NO. 9066 (Feb. 19, 1942), available at <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/5730250>.
² See, e.g., *Ralph Carr Memorial Highway*, HIST. MARKER DATABASE (last revised July 17, 2020), <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=152979>; *Ralph Carr: Defender of Japanese Americans*, COLO. VIRTUAL LIBRARY, <https://www.coloradovirtuallibrary.org/digital-colorado/colorado-histories/20th-century/ralph-carr-defender-of-japanese-americans/>.

³ DEP'T OF THE INTERIOR, REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT, JAPANESE-AMERICAN INTERNMENT SITES PRESERVATION (2001), available at <http://npshistory.com/publications/manz/internment/index.htm> (last updated Jan. 19, 2001).

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 2497 was introduced on April 14, 2021, by Representative Joe Neguse (D-CO). The bill was referred solely to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. On April 21, 2021, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On July 14, 2021, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged by unanimous consent. Rep. Neguse offered an amendment designated Neguse #49. The amendment was agreed to by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was adopted and ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

HEARINGS

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the following hearing was used to develop or consider this measure: hearing by the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held on April 21, 2021.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and with respect to requirements of clause (3)(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has requested but not received a cost estimate for this bill from the Director of Congressional Budget Office. The Committee adopts as its own cost estimate the forthcoming cost estimate of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, should such cost estimate be made available before House passage of the bill.

The Committee has requested but not received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office a statement as to whether this bill contains any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

Congressional Budget Office staff have informed the Committee on a preliminary, informal, nonbinding basis that the bill will likely have no direct spending or revenue effects.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goals and objectives of this bill are to establish the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a Unit of the National Park System.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

An estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act was not made available to the Committee in time for the filing of this report. The Chair of the Committee shall cause such estimate to be printed in the *Congressional Record* upon its receipt by the Committee.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes to existing law.

SUPPLEMENTAL, MINORITY, ADDITIONAL, OR DISSENTING VIEWS

None.