

Public Law 100-692
100th Congress

An Act

Nov. 18, 1988
[H.R. 3957]

To establish the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Delaware and
Lehigh
Navigation
Canal National
Heritage
Corridor Act of
1988.
Conservation.
Cultural
programs.
Historic
preservation.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor Act of 1988".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Delaware Canal, which opened for regular commercial navigation in 1834, provided an early and essential link in a 4,000 mile national transportation route and helped to transform Pennsylvania from an agrarian region to the center of an industrialized society.

(2) The Canal served as the primary means for transporting coal and other bulk goods from the "Anthracite Region" of Pennsylvania to New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and other industrial centers as far away as Europe.

(3) As part of an elaborate national transportation system, the Delaware Canal and Lehigh Navigation Canal played a critical role in supplying our developing Nation with the coal that fueled its factories and heated its homes.

(4) The route of the Delaware Canal parallels stagecoach routes and the trails of the Lenni-Lenape Indians, and passes numerous 18th, 19th, and 20th century sites of national and State historical significance.

(5) In 1978, the Delaware Canal was declared a National Historic Landmark, and portions of the Lehigh Navigation Canal were placed on the National Register of Historic Places and designated a National Recreation Trail.

16 USC 461 note.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR; PURPOSE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Corridor").

(b) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this Act to provide a management framework to assist the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions in developing and implementing integrated cultural, historical, and natural resource policies and programs that will preserve and interpret for the educational and inspirational benefit of present and future generations the unique and significant contributions to our national heritage of certain historic and cultural lands, waterways, and structures within and surrounding the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal in the Commonwealth.

SEC. 4. BOUNDARIES AND ADMINISTRATION.

(a) **BOUNDARIES.**—The boundaries of the Corridor shall include those lands generally depicted on the map entitled “Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor” numbered DELE-90,000 and dated August, 1988. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Department of the Interior in Washington, District of Columbia, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. As soon as practical after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register a detailed description and map of the boundaries established under this subsection.

Public
information.Federal
Register,
publication.

(b) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The Corridor shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. DELAWARE AND LEHIGH NAVIGATION CANAL NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is hereby established the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor Commission (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the “Commission”). The Commission shall assist appropriate Federal, State, and local authorities in the development and implementation of an integrated resource management plan for the Corridor.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Commission shall be composed of 21 members appointed not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act as follows:

(1) The Director of the National Park Service ex officio (or his delegate).

(2) 4 individuals appointed by the Secretary, after receiving recommendations from the Governor who shall represent the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce/Economic Development Partnership, and the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs.

(3) 8 representatives of local governments from the Commonwealth appointed by the Secretary, after receiving recommendations from the Governor, of whom 4 shall be representatives from the Lehigh Navigation Canal region and 4 shall be representatives from the Delaware Canal region.

(4) 8 individuals from the general public who are citizens of the Commonwealth appointed by the Secretary, after receiving recommendations from the Governor, who shall have knowledge and experience in appropriate fields of interest, relating to the preservation, use, and interpretation of the Corridor of whom 4 shall be residents of the Lehigh Navigation Canal region and 4 shall be residents of the Delaware Canal region. A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(c) **TERMS.**—Members of the Commission shall be appointed for terms of 3 years and may be reappointed.

(2) Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term. Any member of the Commission appointed for a definite term may serve after the expiration of his term until his successor has taken office.

(d) **COMPENSATION.**—Members of the Commission shall receive no pay on account of their service on the Commission, but while away

from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(e) **CHAIRPERSON.**—The chairperson of the Commission shall be elected by the members of the Commission. The term of the chairperson shall be 2 years.

(f) **QUORUM.**—(1) 11 members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold hearings.

(2) The affirmative vote of not less than 6 members of the Commission shall be required to approve the budget of the Commission.

(g) **MEETINGS.**—The Commission shall hold its first meeting not later than 90 days after the date on which its members are appointed, and shall meet at least quarterly at the call of the chairperson or 6 of its members. Meetings of the Commission shall be subject to section 552b of title 5, United States Code (relating to open meetings).

SEC. 6. STAFF OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—(1) The Commission shall have the power to appoint and fix the compensation of such staff as may be necessary to carry out its duties.

(2) Staff appointed by the Commission—

(A) shall be appointed subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service; and

(B) shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

(b) **EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**—Subject to such rules as may be adopted by the Commission, the Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized by section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates determined by the Commission to be reasonable.

(c) **STAFF OF OTHER AGENCIES.**—(1) Upon request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out the Commission's duties.

(2) The Commission may accept the services of personnel detailed from the Commonwealth and any political subdivision thereof, and may reimburse the Commonwealth or such political subdivision for those services.

SEC. 7. POWERS OF COMMISSION.

(a) **HEARINGS.**—(1) The Commission may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission considers appropriate.

(2) The Commission may not issue subpoenas or exercise any subpoena authority.

(b) **POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.**—Any member or agent of the Commission, if so authorized by the Commission, may take any action which the Commission is authorized to take by this Act.

(c) **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.**—The Administrator of the General Services Administration shall provide to the Commission,

on a reimbursable basis, such administrative support services as the Commission may request.

(d) **MAILS.**—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(e) **USE OF FUNDS TO OBTAIN MONEY.**—The Commission may use its funds to obtain money from any source under any program or law requiring the recipient of such money to make a contribution in order to receive such money.

(f) **GIFTS.**—(1) Except as provided in subsection (g)(2)(B), the Commission may, for purposes of carrying out its duties, seek, accept, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or donations of money, personal property, or services, received from any source.

(2) For purposes of section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, any gift to the Commission shall be deemed to be a gift to the United States.

(g) **ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.**—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) and except with respect to any leasing of facilities under subsection (c), the Commission may not acquire any real property or interest in real property.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), the Commission may acquire real property, or interests in real property, in the Corridor—

(A) by gift or devise; or

(B) by purchase from a willing seller with money which was given or bequeathed to the Commission on the condition that such money would be used to purchase real property, or interests in real property, in the Corridor.

(3) Any real property or interest in real property acquired by the Commission under paragraph (2) shall be conveyed by the Commission to an appropriate public agency, as determined by the Commission. Any such conveyance shall be made—

(A) as soon as practicable after such acquisition;

(B) without consideration; and

(C) on the condition that the real property or interest in real property so conveyed is used for public purposes.

(h) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—For purposes of carrying out the plan, the Commission may enter into cooperative agreements with the Commonwealth, with any political subdivision of the Commonwealth, or with any person. Any such cooperative agreement shall, at a minimum, establish procedures for providing notice to the Commission of any action proposed by the Commonwealth, such political subdivision, or such person which may affect the implementation of the Plan.

(i) **ADVISORY GROUPS.**—The Commission may establish such advisory groups as it deems necessary to ensure open communication with, and assistance from, the Commonwealth, political subdivisions of the Commonwealth, and interested persons.

SEC. 8. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) **PREPARATION OF PLAN.**—Within 2 years after the Commission conducts its first meeting, it shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior a Cultural Heritage and Corridor Management Plan. The Plan shall be based on existing Federal, Commonwealth, and local plans, but shall coordinate those plans and present a unified historic preservation and interpretation plan for the Corridor. The Plan shall—

(1) provide an inventory which includes any property in the Corridor which should be preserved, restored, managed, developed, maintained, or acquired because of its national historic or cultural significance;

(2) develop an historic interpretation plan to interpret the history of the Canal and its surrounding area;

(3) recommend policies for resource management which consider and detail the application of appropriate land and water management techniques, including the development of intergovernmental cooperative agreements, that will protect the Corridor's historical, cultural, scenic, and natural resources in a manner consistent with supporting appropriate and compatible economic revitalization efforts;

(4) detail the ways in which local, Commonwealth, and Federal programs may best be coordinated to promote the purposes of this Act; and

(5) contain a program for implementation of the Plan by the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions.

(b) **IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.**—After review and approval of the Plan by the Secretary of the Interior as provided in section 10(a), the Commission shall implement the Plan by taking appropriate steps to preserve and interpret the historic resources of the Canal and its surrounding area, and to support public and private efforts in economic revitalization consistent with the goals of the Plan. These steps may include, but need not be limited to—

(1) assisting the Commonwealth in preserving the Canal;

(2) assisting the Commonwealth and local governments in designing, establishing, and maintaining visitor centers and other interpretive exhibits in the Corridor;

(3) assisting in increasing public awareness of and appreciation for the historical, architectural, and geological resources and sites in the Corridor;

(4) assisting the Commonwealth, local governments, and non-profit organizations in the restoration of any historic building in the Corridor;

(5) encouraging by appropriate means enhanced economic and industrial development in the Corridor consistent with the goals of the Plan;

(6) encouraging local governments to adopt land use policies consistent with the management of the Corridor and the goals of the Plan, and to take actions to implement those policies; and

(7) ensuring that clear, consistent signs identifying access points and sites of interest are put in place throughout the Corridor.

SEC. 9. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.

(a) **TERMINATION.**—Except as provided in subsection (b), the Commission shall terminate on the day occurring 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) **EXTENSIONS.**—The Commission may be extended for a period of not more than 5 years beginning on the day of termination referred to in subsection (a) if, not later than 180 days before such day—

(1) the Commission determines such extension is necessary in order to carry out the purpose of this Act;

(2) the Commission submits such proposed extension to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States

House of Representatives and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate; and

(3) the Secretary approves such extension.

SEC. 10. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

(a) **APPROVAL OF PLAN.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall approve or disapprove a Plan submitted to him under this Act by the Commission not later than 60 days after he receives such Plan. The Secretary shall approve a Plan submitted to him if—

(1) he finds that the Plan, if implemented, would adequately protect the significant historical and cultural resources of the Corridor while providing adequate and appropriate outdoor recreational opportunities and economic activities within the Corridor;

(2) he determines that the Commission held public hearings and provided adequate opportunity for public and governmental involvement in the preparation of the Plan; and

(3) he receives adequate assurances from appropriate Commonwealth officials that the recommended implementation program identified in the Plan will be initiated within a reasonable time after the date of approval of the Plan, and that such implementation program will ensure effective implementation of the State and local aspects of the Plan.

(b) **DISAPPROVAL OF PLAN.**—If the Secretary disapproves a Plan submitted to him by the Commission, he shall advise the Commission in writing of the reasons therefore and shall make recommendations for revisions in the Plan. The Commission shall within 90 days of receipt of such notice of disapproval revise and resubmit the plan to the Secretary who shall approve or disapprove a proposed revision within 60 days after the date it is submitted to him.

(c) **INTERPRETIVE MATERIALS.**—Following approval of the Plan as provided under subsection (a), the Secretary shall assist the Commission in designing and producing interpretive materials based on the Plan. Such materials may include—

(1) guide brochures for exploring the Corridor by automobile, train, bicycle, boat, or foot;

(2) indoor and outdoor visitor displays, which may include video presentations, at several locations along the Corridor; and

(3) a mobile display describing the history of the Corridor, to be used in the Corridor, public buildings, libraries, and schools.

(d) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall, upon the request of the Commission, provide technical assistance to the Commission in the preparation and implementation of the Plan.

SEC. 11. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL ENTITIES.

Any Federal entity conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the flow of the Canal or the natural resources of the Corridor shall—

(1) consult with the Secretary and the Commission with respect to such activities;

(2) cooperate with the Secretary and the Commission in carrying out their duties under this Act and, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activities with the carrying out of such duties; and

(3) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct or support such activities in a manner consistent with the Plan and the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **COMMISSION.**—There is authorized to be appropriated annually to the Commission to carry out its duties under this Act \$350,000, except that the Federal contribution to the Commission shall not exceed 50 percent of the annual costs to the Commission in carrying out those duties.

(b) **SECRETARY.**—There are authorized to be appropriated annually to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to carry out his duties under this Act.

SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act—

(1) the term “Canal” means the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal;

(2) the term “Commission” means the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor Commission established under section 5(a);

(3) the term “Commonwealth” means the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

(4) the term “Corridor” means the Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor established under section 3(a);

(5) the term “Plan” means the Cultural Heritage and Corridor Management Plan to be prepared by the Commission pursuant to section 8(a); and

(6) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

Approved November 18, 1988.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 3957:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 100-906 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 134 (1988):

Sept. 13, considered and passed House.

Oct. 14, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Oct. 19, House concurred in certain Senate amendments and disagreed to another.

Oct. 20, Senate receded from its amendment.