

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 833

To require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study regarding Fort King, Florida.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 1997

Mr. STEARNS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study regarding Fort King, Florida.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds that—

5 (1) the Second Seminole War, 1835–1837, is
6 an important period of conflict in the history of the
7 Nation and lasted longer than any other armed con-
8 flict in which the Nation participated, except the
9 Vietnam War;

1 (2) Fort King, in central Florida, played an im-
2 portant historic role in the Second Seminole War as
3 the site of the outbreak of hostilities between the
4 United States Government and the Seminole Indians
5 of Florida, who were led by Seminole Indian Chief
6 Osceola;

7 (3) Fort King represents a unique site for ex-
8 ploration and interpretation of the attack that ig-
9 nited the Second Seminole War on December 28,
10 1835; and

11 (4) Fort King and the surrounding area contain
12 materials and artifacts used in the attack and in the
13 life of the Seminole Indians.

14 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT OF STUDY.**

15 The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter in this Act
16 referred to as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a study to
17 identify potential means to preserve, develop, and inter-
18 pret Fort King, in central Florida, and the surrounding
19 area. As part of the study, the Secretary shall propose
20 alternatives for cooperation in the preservation and inter-
21 pretation of Fort King and shall provide recommendations
22 with respect to the suitability and feasibility of establish-
23 ing Fort King as a unit of the National Park System.

1 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS INCLUDED IN STUDY.**

2 The study required by section 2 shall contain, but
3 need not be limited to, findings with respect to—

4 (1) the role played by Fort King in the Second
5 Seminole War;

6 (2) identification of the historical, cultural, and
7 archaeological material found in Fort King and the
8 surrounding area relating to life at the time of and
9 preceding the Second Seminole War;

10 (3) the types of Federal, State, and local pro-
11 grams that are available to preserve and develop
12 Fort King and the surrounding area and to make
13 the fort and the surrounding area accessible for pub-
14 lic use and enjoyment; and

15 (4) the potential use of, and coordination with,
16 Federal, State, and local programs to manage, in
17 the public interest, the historical and cultural re-
18 sources found at and around Fort King.

19 **SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.**

20 The Secretary shall submit a report detailing the re-
21 sults of the study required by section 2 to the committees
22 of jurisdiction of the House of Representatives and the
23 Senate not later than 12 months after the date of the en-
24 actment of this Act.

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