

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1966

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study whether the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be protected as a wilderness area.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 22, 1998

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study whether the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be protected as a wilderness area.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Gaylord Nelson Apos-
5 tle Islands Stewardship Act of 1998”.

6 **SEC. 2. GAYLORD NELSON APOSTLE ISLANDS.**

7 (a) DECLARATIONS.—Congress declares that—

8 (1) the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is a
9 national and a Wisconsin treasure;

1 (2) the sesquicentennial year of the State of
2 Wisconsin provides an opportunity to reflect on and
3 act to protect important components of the State's
4 ecological and cultural identity, such as the Lake-
5 shore;

6 (3) the State of Wisconsin is particularly in-
7 debted to former Senator Gaylord Nelson for his
8 leadership in the creation of the Lakeshore;

9 (4) after 28 years of enjoyment, some issues
10 critical to maintaining the overall ecological, rec-
11 reational, and cultural vision of the Lakeshore need
12 additional attention;

13 (5) the general management planning process
14 for the Lakeshore has identified a need for a formal
15 wilderness study;

16 (6) all lands within the Lakeshore that might
17 be suitable for designation as wilderness are cur-
18 rently zoned and managed to protect wilderness
19 characteristics pending completion of such a study;

20 (7) several historic lighthouses within the Lake-
21 shore are currently in danger of structural damage
22 due to severe erosion;

23 (8) the Secretary of the Interior has been un-
24 able to take full advantage of cooperative agree-
25 ments with Federal, State, local, and tribal govern-

1 mental agencies, institutions of higher education,
 2 and other nonprofit organizations that could assist
 3 the National Park Service by contributing to the
 4 management of the Lakeshore;

5 (9) because of competing needs in other units
 6 of the National Park System, the standard authoriz-
 7 ing and budgetary process has not resulted in up-
 8 dated legislative authority and necessary funding for
 9 improvements to the Lakeshore; and

10 (10) the need for improvements to the Lake-
 11 shore and completion of a wilderness study should be
 12 accorded a high priority among National Park Serv-
 13 ice activities.

14 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) LAKESHORE.—The term “Lakeshore”
 16 means the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

17 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 18 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
 19 rector of the National Park Service.

20 (c) WILDERNESS STUDY.—In fulfillment of the re-
 21 sponsibilities of the Secretary under the Wilderness Act
 22 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and of applicable agency policy,
 23 the Secretary shall evaluate areas of land within the Lake-
 24 shore for inclusion in the National Wilderness System.

1 (d) APOSTLE ISLANDS LIGHTHOUSES.—The Sec-
 2 retary shall undertake appropriate action (including pro-
 3 tection of the bluff toe beneath the lighthouses, stabiliza-
 4 tion of the bank face, and dewatering of the area imme-
 5 diately shoreward of the bluffs) to protect the lighthouse
 6 structures at Raspberry Lighthouse and Outer Island
 7 Lighthouse within the Lakeshore.

8 (e) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—Section 6 of Pub-
 9 lic Law 91-424 (16 U.S.C. 460w-5) is amended—

10 (1) by striking “SEC. 6. The lakeshore” and in-
 11 serting the following:

12 **“SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The lakeshore”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary
 16 may enter into a cooperative agreement with a Federal,
 17 State, tribal, or local government agency or a nonprofit
 18 private entity if the Secretary determines that a coopera-
 19 tive agreement would be beneficial in carrying out section
 20 7.”.

21 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 22 are authorized to be appropriated—

23 (1) \$200,000 to carry out subsection (c); and

24 (2) \$3,900,000 to carry out subsection (d).

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