

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2465

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the route of the War of 1812 British invasion of Maryland and Washington, District of Columbia, and the route of the American defense, for study for potential addition to the national trails system.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 14, 1998

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

A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the route of the War of 1812 British invasion of Maryland and Washington, District of Columbia, and the route of the American defense, for study for potential addition to the national trails system.

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 “Star-Spangled Banner
5 National Historic Trail Study Act of 1998”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) the British invasion of Maryland and Wash-
2 ington, District of Columbia, during the War of
3 1812 marks a defining period in the history of our
4 Nation, the only occasion on which the United
5 States of America has been invaded by a foreign
6 power;

7 (2) the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic
8 Trail traces the route of the landing of the British
9 forces at Benedict, Maryland, the sinking of the
10 Chesapeake Flotilla in St. Leonard's Creek, the
11 American defeat at the Battle of Bladensburg, the
12 siege of the Nation's capital, Washington, District of
13 Columbia (including the burning of the United
14 States Capitol and the White House), the route of
15 the American troops between Washington and Balti-
16 more, the Battle of North Point, and the ultimate
17 victory of the Americans at Fort McHenry, on Sep-
18 tember 14, 1814, where a distinguished Maryland
19 lawyer and poet, Francis Scott Key, wrote the words
20 that captured the essence of our national struggle
21 for independence, words that now serve as our na-
22 tional anthem, the Star-Spangled Banner; and

23 (3) the designation of this route as a national
24 historic trail—

1 (A) would serve as a reminder of the im-
 2 portance of the concept of liberty to all who ex-
 3 perience the Star-Spangled Banner National
 4 Historic Trail; and

5 (B) would give long overdue recognition to
 6 the patriots whose determination to stand firm
 7 against enemy invasion and bombardment pre-
 8 served this liberty for future generations of
 9 Americans.

10 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF TRAIL FOR STUDY.**

11 Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16
 12 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating paragraph (36) (as added
 14 by section 3 of the El Camino Real Para Los Texas
 15 Study Act of 1993 (107 Stat. 1497)) as paragraph
 16 (37);

17 (2) by designating the paragraphs relating to
 18 the Old Spanish Trail and the Great Western Scenic
 19 Trail as paragraphs (38) and (39), respectively; and

20 (3) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(40) STAR-SPANGLED BANNER NATIONAL HIS-
 22 TORIC TRAIL.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Star-Spangled
 24 Banner National Historic Trail, tracing the
 25 War of 1812 route of the landing of the British

1 forces at Benedict, Maryland, the sinking of the
2 Chesapeake Flotilla in St. Leonard's Creek, the
3 American defeat at the Battle of Bladensburg,
4 the siege of the Nation's capital, Washington,
5 District of Columbia (including the burning of
6 the United States Capitol and the White
7 House), the route of the American troops be-
8 tween Washington and Baltimore, the Battle of
9 North Point, and the ultimate victory of the
10 Americans at Fort McHenry, on September 14,
11 1814.

12 “(B) AFFECTED AREAS.—The trail crosses
13 6 Maryland counties, the city of Baltimore, and
14 Washington, District of Columbia.”.

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