

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5240

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Northern Neck National Heritage Area in Virginia, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2002

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Northern Neck National Heritage Area in Virginia, and for other purposes.

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 “Northern Neck Na-
5 tional Heritage Area Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY.**

7 The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with
8 appropriate State historic preservation officers, States his-

1 torical societies, and other appropriate organizations, shall
2 conduct a study regarding the suitability and feasibility
3 of designating the study area described in section 3 as
4 the Northern Neck National Heritage Area. The study
5 shall include analysis, documentation, and determination
6 regarding whether the study area—

7 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
8 cultural resources that together represent distinctive
9 aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition,
10 conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and
11 are best managed through partnerships among pub-
12 lic and private entities and by combining diverse and
13 sometimes noncontiguous resources and active com-
14 munities;

15 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
16 folklife that are a valuable part of the national story;

17 (3) provides outstanding opportunities to con-
18 serve natural, historic, cultural, or scenic features;

19 (4) provides outstanding recreational and edu-
20 cational opportunities;

21 (5) contains resources important to the identi-
22 fied theme or themes of the study area that retain
23 a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpre-
24 tation;

1 (6) includes residents, business interests, non-
2 profit organizations, and local and State govern-
3 ments that are involved in the planning, have devel-
4 oped a conceptual financial plan that outlines the
5 roles of all participants (including the Federal Gov-
6 ernment), and have demonstrated support for the
7 concept of a national heritage area;

8 (7) has a potential management entity to work
9 in partnership with residents, business interests,
10 nonprofit organizations, and local and State govern-
11 ments to develop a national heritage area consistent
12 with continued local and State economic activity;
13 and

14 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
15 ported by the public.

16 **SEC. 3. BOUNDARIES OF THE STUDY AREA.**

17 The study area referred to in section 2 shall be com-
18 prised of the following:

19 (1) The part of Virginia between the Potomac
20 and the Rappahannock Rivers in eastern coastal Vir-
21 ginia.

22 (2) Westmoreland, Northumberland, Richmond,
23 King George, and Lancaster Counties, Virginia.

24 (3) Other areas that have heritage aspects that
25 are similar to those aspects that are in the areas de-

1 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2) and which are ad-
2 jacent to or in the vicinity of those areas.

3 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

4 Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which
5 funds are first made available for this Act, the Secretary
6 of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Resources
7 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
8 Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on
9 the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the
10 study.

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