

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1595

To further cooperation and support among Federal land managers and designated gateway communities where the results of such cooperation and support are likely to be mutually beneficial, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2003

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (for herself and Mr. RAHALL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To further cooperation and support among Federal land managers and designated gateway communities where the results of such cooperation and support are likely to be mutually beneficial, 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. COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR DES-**
4 **IGNATED GATEWAY COMMUNITIES.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
6 “Healthy Public Lands, Healthy Communities Act”.

1 (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, COOPERATION, AND
2 TRAINING.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-
4 rior and the Secretary of Agriculture may cooperate
5 with and may provide technical assistance to any
6 designated gateway community where the relevant
7 Secretary determines that the results of such co-
8 operation and assistance are likely to benefit both
9 the protection of resources managed by the Sec-
10 retary and the community.

11 (2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—At the request of
12 the government of a designated gateway community,
13 the relevant Secretary may assign, on a temporary
14 basis, an agency employee or contractor to work
15 with the community to develop mutually compatible
16 land use or management plans or policies for the
17 general area.

18 (3) TRAINING SESSIONS.—The Secretary of the
19 Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may offer
20 training sessions for elected and appointed officials
21 of designated gateway communities at which such
22 officials can obtain a better understanding of—

23 (A) agency planning processes; and

24 (B) the methods by which they can partici-
25 pate most meaningfully in the development of

1 agency plans, decisions, and policies, including
2 information regarding the process whereby
3 units of local government may obtain status as
4 cooperating agencies under the National Envi-
5 ronmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321
6 et seq.).

7 (4) COORDINATION OF LAND USE.—To the ex-
8 tent consistent with the laws governing the adminis-
9 tration of the Federal public lands, and at the re-
10 quest of the government of a designated gateway
11 community, the Secretary of the Interior and the
12 Secretary of Agriculture may enter into cooperative
13 agreements with designated gateway communities to
14 provide for coordination between—

15 (A) the land use inventory, planning, and
16 management activities for Federal lands admin-
17 istered by the relevant Secretary;

18 (B) the land use inventory, planning, and
19 management activities for lands administered
20 by the designated gateway community; and

21 (C) where relevant, such cooperative agree-
22 ments may also include the land use planning
23 and management activities of other Federal
24 agencies, agencies of the State in which the
25 Federal lands are located, and local and tribal

1 governments in the vicinity of the Federal
2 lands.

3 (5) INTERAGENCY COOPERATION AND COORDI-
4 NATION.—To the extent practicable and when con-
5 sistent with applicable laws and regulations of each
6 respective Federal land management agency, when
7 the plans and activities of 2 or more Federal land
8 management agencies are anticipated to have a sig-
9 nificant impact on a designated gateway community,
10 the Federal land agencies involved may consolidate
11 and coordinate their plans and planning processes to
12 facilitate the participation of the designated gateway
13 community in the planning processes.

14 (6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
15 There is authorized to be appropriated not more
16 than \$1,000,000 in any fiscal year for use by the
17 relevant Secretary to carry out this section.

18 (c) GRANTS.—

19 (1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Interior
20 and the Secretary of Agriculture may make grants
21 to designated gateway communities for the purposes
22 described in this section.

23 (2) CRITERIA.—The Secretaries shall jointly de-
24 velop criteria for awarding of grants under this sub-
25 section.

1 (3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

2 There is authorized to be appropriated not more
3 than \$1,000,000 in any fiscal year for grants under
4 this subsection.

5 (d) DESIGNATED GATEWAY COMMUNITY.—For pur-
6 poses of this section, the term “designated gateway com-
7 munity” means a county, city, town, village, or other sub-
8 division of a State, or a federally recognized Indian tribe
9 or Alaska Native village, that—

10 (1) is incorporated or recognized in a county or
11 regional land use plan;

12 (2) the Secretary of the Interior or the Sec-
13 retary of Agriculture determines is significantly af-
14 fected economically, socially, or environmentally by
15 planning and management decisions regarding Fed-
16 eral lands administered by the relevant Secretary;
17 and

18 (3) has entered into a cooperative agreement
19 with the relevant Secretary pursuant to subsection
20 (b)(4).

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