

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1205

To amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to extend the authorization for that corridor, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2005

Mr. SIMMONS (for himself and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to extend the authorization for that corridor, 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. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Thousands of individuals, hundreds of non-
6 profits, businesses, local and regional organizations,
7 35 towns and 2 states have worked under the des-
8 ignation of the National Heritage Corridor to pre-
9 serve and enhance the significant natural, historic,

1 cultural, and scenic resources of The Last Green
2 Valley.

3 (2) The Green Valley Institute, a partnership
4 with the Universities of Connecticut and Massachu-
5 setts Cooperative Extension System, has signifi-
6 cantly improved the information base from which
7 land use and natural resource conservation decisions
8 are made by primarily volunteer municipal officials.

9 (3) The Green Valley Institute has been recog-
10 nized with 8 State and national awards for public
11 education in the past 3 years.

12 (4) Significant historic structures have been
13 identified and restored under the programs of the
14 National Heritage Corridor.

15 (5) The National Heritage Corridor has assem-
16 bled museums, attractions, landscapes, and busi-
17 nesses into cohesive interpretive projects that tell the
18 stories of The Last Green Valley for residents and
19 tourists alike.

20 (6) The National Heritage Corridor has devel-
21 oped agri-tourism programs, data collection and
22 analysis, and continuing education in its vision of
23 sustaining the traditional land-based economy of the
24 region.

1 (7) Recreational tourism has been enhanced by
 2 the many trails, greenways, river access, and inter-
 3 pretive projects of the National Heritage Corridor.

4 (8) Each of the 35 municipal governments with-
 5 in the National Heritage Corridor has signed a vol-
 6 untary, non-binding community compact accepting
 7 the goals and objectives of the National Heritage
 8 Corridor’s management plan and formalizing their
 9 commitment to balance conservation and growth and
 10 their collective vision for the watershed.

11 (9) The National Heritage Corridor has consist-
 12 ently leveraged an average of \$16 for every Federal
 13 dollar invested for the past 10 years.

14 (10) Reauthorization at this time will leverage
 15 significant multi-year commitments towards self-suf-
 16 ficiency for the programs and projects that are ful-
 17 filling the mission of the National Heritage Corridor.

18 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR THE**
 19 **QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET RIVERS VAL-**
 20 **LEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.**

21 The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National
 22 Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–449) is
 23 amended—

24 (1) in section 106, by striking “September 30,
 25 2009” and inserting “September 30, 2027”; and

- 1 (2) in section 109, by striking “\$10,000,000”
- 2 and inserting “\$20,000,000”.

