

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2588

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study of the feasibility of designating the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Watertrail as a national historic trail.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 24, 2005

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. HOYER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. FORBES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study of the feasibility of designating the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Watertrail as a national historic trail.

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 “Captain John Smith  
5 Chesapeake National Historic Watertrail Study Act of  
6 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) Captain John Smith’s role in the founding  
4 of Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English  
5 settlement in North America, and in exploring and  
6 mapping the Chesapeake Bay region during the pe-  
7 riod from 1607 to 1609 marks a defining period in  
8 the history of the United States;

9 (2) the Captain John Smith Chesapeake Na-  
10 tional Historic Watertrail traces the routes of  
11 Smith’s voyages from Jamestown to explore the  
12 Chesapeake Bay and tributaries of the Chesapeake  
13 Bay, from the mouth of Chesapeake Bay at Cape  
14 Henry to the northern reaches of the Bay at the  
15 mouth of the Susquehanna River, including the Po-  
16 tomac River; and

17 (3) the designation of the Captain John Smith  
18 Chesapeake National Historic Watertrail would—

19 (A) serve as a reminder of—

20 (i) the 400th anniversary of Captain  
21 John Smith’s founding of Jamestown; and

22 (ii) the series of exploratory voyages  
23 by Smith around the Chesapeake Bay dur-  
24 ing the period from 1607 to 1609;

25 (B) give recognition to the Native Amer-  
26 ican settlements, culture, and natural history of

1 the Chesapeake Bay region during the 17th  
2 century;

3 (C) complement the Chesapeake Bay Gate-  
4 ways and Watertrails Network Initiative; and

5 (D) provide new opportunities for edu-  
6 cation, recreation, and heritage tourism in the  
7 Chesapeake Bay region.

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

9 Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16  
10 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(43)(A) The Captain John Smith Chesapeake Na-  
13 tional Historic Watertrail, a series of routes extending ap-  
14 proximately 3000 miles along the Chesapeake Bay and the  
15 tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay in the States of Vir-  
16 ginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware and the Dis-  
17 trict of Columbia that traces Captain John Smith’s voy-  
18 ages charting the land and waterways of the Chesapeake  
19 Bay and the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay.

20 “(B) The study shall be conducted in consultation  
21 with Federal, State, regional, and local agencies and rep-  
22 resentatives of the private sector, including the entities re-  
23 sponsible for administering—

24 “(i) the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and  
25 Watertrails Network authorized under the Chesa-

1       peake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 461  
2       note; Public Law 105–312); and

3               “(ii) the Chesapeake Bay Program authorized  
4       under section 117 of the Federal Water Pollution  
5       Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1267).”.

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