

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 87

To establish the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area in the State of New Jersey, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To establish the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area in the State of New Jersey, 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 “Crossroads of the
5 American Revolution National Heritage Area Act of
6 2003”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

9 (1) New Jersey was of critical importance dur-
10 ing the American Revolution due to its strategic lo-

1 cation between the British armies headquartered in
2 New York City and the Continental Congress sitting
3 in the City of Philadelphia.

4 (2) General George Washington spent almost
5 half of the period of the American Revolution per-
6 sonally commanding troops of the Continental Army
7 in New Jersey including 2 severe winter encamp-
8 ments at what is now Morristown National Histor-
9 ical Park, a unit of the National Park System.

10 (3) It was during the 10 crucial days of the
11 American Revolution between December 25, 1776,
12 and January 3, 1777, when General Washington,
13 after retreating across New Jersey from New York
14 City to Pennsylvania in the face of total defeat for
15 the Nation's cause, recrossed the Delaware River on
16 Christmas night, 1776, and won crucial battles at
17 Trenton and Princeton. Thomas Paine, who accom-
18 panied the troops during the retreat, described the
19 events as, the times that try men's souls.

20 (4) There are situated in the State of New Jer-
21 sey the sites of 296 engagements including several
22 important battles of the American Revolution, which
23 collectively are of significant importance to the out-
24 come of the overall conflict and the history of the
25 United States. Among these are National Historic

1 Landmarks including Washington’s Crossing, the
2 Old Trenton Barracks, and Princeton, Monmouth
3 and Red Bank Battlefields.

4 (5) Additional national Historic Landmarks in-
5 clude the homes of Richard Stockton, Joseph Hewes,
6 John Witherspoon, and Francis Hopkinson, all sign-
7 ers of the Declaration of Independence, Elias
8 Boudinout, President of the Continental Congress
9 and William Livingston, patriot and Governor of
10 New Jersey from 1776 to 1790.

11 (6) Portions of the landscapes important to the
12 strategies of both armies including waterways,
13 mountains, farms, wetlands, villages and roadways
14 retain integrity of the period of the American Revo-
15 lution and offer outstanding opportunities for con-
16 servation, education, and recreation.

17 (7) The National Register of Historic Places
18 lists 251 buildings and sites in the National Park
19 Service study area for Crossroads of the American
20 Revolution associated with the period of the Amer-
21 ican Revolution.

22 (8) Civilian populations residing in New Jersey
23 suffered extreme hardships during the American
24 Revolution due to the continuous conflict within its

1 borders, foraging armies, and marauding contingents
2 of loyalist Tories and rebel sympathizers.

3 (9) Because of the important role that New
4 Jersey played in the successful outcome of the
5 American Revolution there is a Federal interest for
6 the development of a regional framework to assist
7 the State of New Jersey, other local organizations
8 and governments, and private citizens to preserve
9 and protect natural, cultural, and historic resources
10 of the period and to bring recognition to this impor-
11 tant heritage for the educational and recreational
12 benefit of this and future generations of Americans.

13 (10) The National Park Service has conducted
14 a National Heritage Feasibility Study in the State
15 of New Jersey that demonstrates the sufficient as-
16 semblage of nationally distinctive natural, cultural,
17 and historic resources necessary to establish the
18 Crossroads of the American Revolution National
19 Heritage Area.

20 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as fol-
21 lows:

22 (1) To build the capacity of communities, orga-
23 nizations, and citizens in New Jersey to preserve the
24 special historic identity of the region and its impor-
25 tance to the Nation.

1 (2) To foster a close working relationship with
2 all levels of government, the private sector, and the
3 local communities in New Jersey.

4 (3) To provide for the management, preserva-
5 tion, protection, and interpretation of the natural,
6 historic, and cultural resources of the region for the
7 educational and inspirational benefit of future gen-
8 erations.

9 (4) To strengthen the value of Morristown Na-
10 tional Historical Park as an asset to the region by
11 establishing a network of related historic resources,
12 protected landscapes, educational opportunities, and
13 events depicting the revolutionary landscape of New
14 Jersey.

15 (5) To strengthen partnerships among Morris-
16 town National Historical Park and other public and
17 privately owned resources in the heritage area, that
18 together represent the strategic fulcrum of the
19 American Revolution, as assets in the quality of life
20 in the region.

21 (6) To authorize Federal financial and technical
22 assistance to serve these purposes.

23 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

24 For the purposes of this Act:

1 (1) ASSOCIATION.—The term “Association”
2 means the Crossroads of the American Revolution
3 Association, Inc., a nonprofit corporation in the
4 State of New Jersey.

5 (2) BOUNDARIES.—The term “boundaries”
6 means the boundaries of the heritage area specified
7 in section 4.

8 (3) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “heritage
9 area” means the Crossroads of the American Revo-
10 lution National Heritage Area as established in sec-
11 tion 4.

12 (4) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term “manage-
13 ment plan” means the management plan submitted
14 under section 5.

15 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
16 the Secretary of the Interior.

17 **SEC. 4. CROSSROADS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NA-**
18 **TIONAL HERITAGE AREA.**

19 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
20 State of New Jersey the Crossroads of the American Revo-
21 lution National Heritage Area.

22 (b) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the heritage
23 area shall include all those lands and waters depicted on
24 a map entitled “Crossroads of the American Revolution
25 National Heritage Area”, numbered CRREL80,000 and

1 dated April 2002. The map shall be on file in the appro-
2 priate offices of the National Park Service.

3 (c) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The management entity
4 for the heritage area shall be the Association.

5 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITIES, PROHIBITIONS, AND DUTIES OF THE**
6 **ASSOCIATION.**

7 (a) DUTIES OF THE ASSOCIATION.—To further the
8 purposes of the heritage area, the Association shall—

9 (1) prepare and submit a management plan for
10 the heritage area to the Secretary in accordance
11 with section 6;

12 (2) assist units of local government, regional
13 planning organizations, and nonprofit organizations
14 in implementing the approved management plan
15 by—

16 (A) carrying out programs and projects
17 that recognize, protect, and enhance important
18 resource values within the heritage area;

19 (B) establishing and maintaining interpre-
20 tive exhibits and programs within the heritage
21 area;

22 (C) developing recreational and educational
23 opportunities in the heritage area;

1 (D) increasing public awareness of and ap-
2 preciation for natural, historic, and cultural re-
3 sources of the heritage area;

4 (E) protecting and restoring historic sites
5 and buildings in the heritage area that are con-
6 sistent with heritage area themes;

7 (F) ensuring that clear, consistent, and ap-
8 propriate signs identifying points of public ac-
9 cess and sites of interest are posted throughout
10 the heritage area; and

11 (G) promoting a wide range of partner-
12 ships among governments, organizations, and
13 individuals to further the purposes of the herit-
14 age area;

15 (3) consider the interests of diverse units of
16 government, businesses, organizations, and individ-
17 uals in the heritage area in the preparation and im-
18 plementation of the management plan;

19 (4) conduct Association meetings open to the
20 public at least semiannually regarding the develop-
21 ment and implementation of the management plan;

22 (5) submit an annual report to the Secretary
23 for any fiscal year in which the Association receives
24 Federal funds under this Act, setting forth its ac-
25 complishments, expenses, and income, including

1 grants to any other entities during the year for
2 which the report is made;

3 (6) make available for audit for any fiscal year
4 in which it receives Federal funds under this Act, all
5 information pertaining to the expenditure of such
6 funds and any matching funds, and require in all
7 agreements authorizing expenditures of Federal
8 funds by other organizations, that the receiving or-
9 ganizations make available for such audit all records
10 and other information pertaining to the expenditure
11 of such funds;

12 (7) encourage by appropriate means economic
13 viability that is consistent with the purposes of the
14 heritage area; and

15 (8) maintain its headquarters at Morristown
16 National Historical Park and in Mercer County.

17 (b) AUTHORITIES.—The Association may, for the
18 purposes of preparing and implementing the management
19 plan for the heritage area, use Federal funds made avail-
20 able through this Act to__

21 (1) make grants to the State of New Jersey, its
22 political subdivisions, nonprofit organizations and
23 other persons;

24 (2) enter into cooperative agreements with or
25 provide technical assistance to the State of New Jer-

1 sey, its political jurisdictions, nonprofit organiza-
2 tions, and other interested parties;

3 (3) hire and compensate staff which shall in-
4 clude individuals with expertise in natural, cultural,
5 historic resources protection, and heritage program-
6 ming;

7 (4) obtain money or services from any source,
8 including any that are provided under any other
9 Federal law or program;

10 (5) contract for goods or services; and

11 (6) undertake to be a catalyst for any other ac-
12 tivity that furthers the purposes of the heritage area
13 and is consistent with the approved management
14 plan.

15 (c) PROHIBITIONS ON THE ACQUISITION OF REAL
16 PROPERTY.—The Association may not use Federal funds
17 received under this Act to acquire real property, but may
18 use any other source of funding, including other Federal
19 funding, intended for the acquisition of real property.

20 **SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The management plan for the
22 heritage area shall—

23 (1) include comprehensive polices, strategies
24 and recommendations for conservation, funding,
25 management, and development of the heritage area;

1 (2) take into consideration existing State, coun-
2 ty, and local plans in the development of the man-
3 agement plan and its implementation;

4 (3) include a description of actions that govern-
5 ments, private organizations, and individuals have
6 agreed to take to protect the natural, historic, and
7 cultural resources of the heritage area;

8 (4) specify the existing and potential sources of
9 funding to protect, manage, and develop the heritage
10 area in the first 5 years of implementation;

11 (5) include an inventory of the natural, histor-
12 ical, cultural, educational, scenic and recreational re-
13 sources of the heritage area related to the themes of
14 the heritage area that should be preserved, restored,
15 managed, developed, or maintained;

16 (6) recommend policies and strategies for re-
17 source management which consider and detail the
18 application of appropriate land and water manage-
19 ment techniques including, but not limited to, the
20 development of intergovernmental and interagency
21 cooperative agreements to protect the heritage area's
22 natural, historical, cultural, educational, scenic and
23 recreational resources;

24 (7) describe a program of implementation for
25 the management plan including plans for resource

1 protection, restoration, construction, and specific
2 commitments for implementation that have been
3 made by the Association or any government, organi-
4 zation, or individual for the first 5 years of imple-
5 mentation;

6 (8) include an analysis and recommendations
7 for ways in which local, State, and Federal pro-
8 grams, including the role of the National Park Serv-
9 ice in the heritage area, may best be coordinated to
10 further the purposes of this Act; and

11 (9) include an interpretive plan for the heritage
12 area.

13 (b) DEADLINE AND TERMINATION OF FUNDING.—

14 (1) DEADLINE.—The Association shall submit
15 the management plan to the Secretary for approval
16 within 3 years after funds are made available for
17 this Act.

18 (2) TERMINATION OF FUNDING.—Upon comple-
19 tion of the 3-year period in this subsection, further
20 funding pursuant to this Act shall only be made
21 available to the Association for the implementation
22 of the management plan upon approval by the Sec-
23 retary as provided in Section 7 of this Act.

24 **SEC. 7. DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

25 (a) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, upon
2 the request of the Association provide technical as-
3 sistance on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis
4 and financial assistance to the heritage area to de-
5 velop and implement the approved management
6 plan. The Secretary is authorized to enter into coop-
7 erative agreements with the Association and other
8 public or private entities for this purpose. In assist-
9 ing the heritage area, the Secretary shall give pri-
10 ority to actions that in general assist in—

11 (A) conserving the significant natural, his-
12 toric, cultural, and scenic resources of the herit-
13 age area; and

14 (B) providing educational, interpretive, and
15 recreational opportunities consistent with the
16 purposes of the heritage area.

17 (2) OTHER ASSISTANCE.—Upon request, the
18 Superintendent of Morristown National Historical
19 Park may provide to public and private organiza-
20 tions within the heritage area, including the Associa-
21 tion, such operational assistance as appropriate to
22 support the implementation of the management plan
23 for the heritage area, subject to the availability of
24 appropriated funds. The Secretary is authorized to
25 enter into cooperative agreements with public and

1 private organizations for the purpose of imple-
2 menting this subsection.

3 (3) PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC PROP-
4 erties.—The Secretary may provide assistance to
5 State or local government or nonprofit organizations
6 for appropriate treatment of historic objects or
7 structures listed or eligible for listing on the Na-
8 tional Register of Historic Places to further the pur-
9 poses of this Act.

10 (b) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT
11 PLAN.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall approve
13 or disapprove the management plan not later than
14 90 days after receiving the management plan.

15 (2) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—In determining
16 to approve the management plan, the Secretary shall
17 consider whether—

18 (A) the Board of Directors of the Associa-
19 tion is representative of the diverse interests of
20 the heritage area including governments, nat-
21 ural and historic resource protection organiza-
22 tions, education, business, and recreation;

23 (B) the Association has afforded adequate
24 opportunity, including public hearings, for pub-

1 lic and governmental involvement in the prepa-
2 ration of the management plan;

3 (C) the resource protection and interpreta-
4 tion strategies contained in the management
5 plan, if implemented, would adequately protect
6 the natural, historic, and cultural resources of
7 the heritage area; and

8 (D) the Secretary has received adequate
9 assurances from the appropriate State and local
10 officials whose support is needed to ensure the
11 effective implementation of the State and local
12 aspects of the management plan.

13 (3) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—If the
14 Secretary disapproves the management plan, the
15 Secretary shall advise the Association in writing of
16 the reasons therefore and shall make recommenda-
17 tions for revisions to the management plan. The Sec-
18 retary shall approve or disapprove a proposed revi-
19 sion within 60 days after the date it is submitted.

20 (4) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS.—Substantial
21 amendments to the management plan shall be re-
22 viewed by the Secretary and approved in the same
23 manner as provided for the original management
24 plan. The Association shall not use Federal funds
25 authorized by this Act to implement any amend-

1 ments until the Secretary has approved the amend-
2 ments.

3 **SEC. 8. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

4 Any Federal agency conducting or supporting activi-
5 ties directly affecting the heritage area shall—

6 (1) consult with the Secretary and the Associa-
7 tion with respect to such activities;

8 (2) cooperate with the Secretary and the Asso-
9 ciation in carrying out their duties under this Act
10 and, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate
11 such activities with the carrying out of such duties;
12 and

13 (3) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct
14 or support such activities in a manner which the as-
15 sociation determines will not have an adverse effect
16 on the heritage area.

17 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be appro-
19 priated for the purposes of this Act not more than
20 \$1,000,000 for any fiscal year. Not more than a total of
21 \$10,000,000 may be appropriated for the Association
22 under this Act.

23 (b) **MATCHING FUNDS.**—Federal funding provided
24 under this Act may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost

1 of any assistance or grant provided or authorized under
2 this Act.

3 **SEC. 10. SUNSET.**

4 The authority of the Secretary to provide assistance
5 under this Act shall terminate on the day occurring 15
6 years after the date of the enactment of the Act.

○