

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 956

To establish the Land Between the Rivers National Heritage Area in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 21, 2007

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. OBAMA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the Land Between the Rivers National Heritage Area in the State of Illinois, 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 “Land Between the Riv-  
5       ers Southern Illinois National Heritage Area Act of  
6       2007”.

7       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8       Congress finds that—

9               (1) southern Illinois has a cohesive, distinctive,  
10       and important landscape that distinguishes the area

1 as worthy of designation as a National Heritage  
2 Area;

3 (2) the historic features of southern Illinois re-  
4 flect a period during which the area was the stra-  
5 tegic convergence point during the westward expan-  
6 sion of the United States;

7 (3) the geographic centrality of southern Illinois  
8 ensured that the area played a pivotal military, so-  
9 cial, and political role during the Civil War, which  
10 resulted in the area being known as the “Confluence  
11 of Freedom”;

12 (4) southern Illinois is at the junction of the  
13 ending glaciers and 6 ecological divisions;

14 (5) after the expeditions of Lewis and Clark,  
15 the land between the rivers became known as  
16 “Egypt” because of the rivers in, and the beauty  
17 and agricultural abundance of, the area;

18 (6) Native Americans described the area in  
19 southern Illinois between the Mississippi and Ohio  
20 Rivers as the “Land Between the Rivers”;

21 (7) a feasibility study led by the Office of Eco-  
22 nomic and Regional Development at Southern Illi-  
23 nois University Carbondale that was revised in April  
24 2006 documents a sufficient assemblage of nation-  
25 ally distinctive historic resources to demonstrate the

1 feasibility of, and the need for, establishing the  
2 Land Between the Rivers National Heritage Area;  
3 and

4 (8) stakeholders participating in the feasibility  
5 study process for the Heritage Area have developed  
6 a proposed management entity and financial plan to  
7 preserve the natural, cultural, historic, and scenic  
8 features of the area while furthering recreational  
9 and educational opportunities in the area.

10 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

11 In this Act:

12 (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage  
13 Area” means the Land Between the Rivers National  
14 Heritage Area established by section 4(a).

15 (2) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term “man-  
16 agement entity” means the management entity for  
17 the Heritage Area designated by section 4(c).

18 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
19 the Secretary of the Interior.

20 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
21 of Illinois.

1 **SEC. 4. LAND BETWEEN THE RIVERS NATIONAL HERITAGE**  
 2 **AREA.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
 4 State the Land Between the Rivers National Heritage  
 5 Area.

6 (b) BOUNDARIES.—The Heritage Area shall in-  
 7 clude—

8 (1) Kincaid Mound, Fort de Chartres,  
 9 Kaskaskia, Fort Massac, Wilkinsonville Contonment,  
 10 the Lewis and Clark Sculpture, Flat Boat, Cave-in-  
 11 Rock, the Shawneetown Bank Building, the Iron  
 12 Furnace, the Crenshaw “Slave House,” Roots  
 13 House, the site of the Lincoln-Douglas debate, cer-  
 14 tain sites associated with John A. Logan, the Fort  
 15 Defiance Planning Map, Mound City National  
 16 Cemetary, and Riverlore Mansion; and

17 (2) any other sites in Randolph, Perry, Jeffer-  
 18 son, Franklin, Hamilton, White, Jackson,  
 19 Williamson, Saline, Gallatin, Union, Johnson, Pope,  
 20 Hardin, Alexander, Pulaski, and Massac Counties in  
 21 the State that the Secretary, in consultation with  
 22 the management entity, determines to be appro-  
 23 priate for inclusion in the Heritage Area.

1       (c) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The management entity  
2 for the Heritage Area shall be the Southern Illinois Uni-  
3 versity Carbondale.

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