

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1078

To establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, New York, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2009

Mr. ARCURI (for himself, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. KRATOVIL, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BACA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLAY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOYER, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. MASSA, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. NADLER of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. REYES, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHULER, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. WATT, and Mr. WAXMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, New York, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, 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 “Harriet Tubman Na-
5 tional Historical Park and Harriet Tubman Underground
6 Railroad National Historical Park Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

9 (1) Harriet Tubman (born Araminta “Minty”
10 Ross)—

11 (A) was born into slavery in Maryland
12 around 1822;

13 (B) married John Tubman at age 25;

14 (C) endured through her youth and young
15 adulthood the hardships of enslaved African-
16 Americans; and

17 (D) boldly emancipated herself from bond-
18 age in 1849;

19 (2) not satisfied with attaining her own free-
20 dom, Harriet Tubman—

21 (A) returned repeatedly for more than 10
22 years to the places of her enslavement in Dor-
23 chester and Caroline Counties, Maryland; and

24 (B) under the most adverse circumstances
25 led away many family members and acquaint-

1 ances to freedom in the northern region of the
2 United States and Canada;

3 (3) Harriet Tubman was—

4 (A) called “Moses” by African-Americans
5 and white abolitionists; and

6 (B) acknowledged as one of the most
7 prominent “conductors” of the resistance that
8 came to be known as the “Underground Rail-
9 road”;

10 (4) in 1868, Frederick Douglass wrote that,
11 with the exception of John Brown, Douglass knew of
12 “no one who has willingly encountered more perils
13 and hardships to serve our enslaved people” than
14 Harriet Tubman;

15 (5) during the Civil War, Harriet Tubman—

16 (A) was recruited to assist Union troops as
17 a nurse, a scout, and a spy; and

18 (B) served in Virginia, Florida, and South
19 Carolina, where she is credited with facilitating
20 the rescue of hundreds of enslaved people;

21 (6) Harriet Tubman established in Auburn,
22 New York, one of the first incorporated homes for
23 aged African-Americans in the United States, which,
24 10 years before her death, she bequeathed to the Af-
25 rican Methodist Episcopal Zion Church;

1 (7) there are nationally significant resources
2 comprised of relatively unchanged landscapes associ-
3 ated with the early life of Harriet Tubman in Caro-
4 line, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland;

5 (8) there are nationally significant resources re-
6 lating to Harriet Tubman in Auburn, New York, in-
7 cluding—

8 (A) the residence of Harriet Tubman;

9 (B) the Tubman Home for the Aged;

10 (C) the Thompson Memorial AME Zion
11 Church; and

12 (D) the final resting place of Harriet Tub-
13 man in Fort Hill Cemetery;

14 (9) in developing interpretive programs, the Na-
15 tional Park Service would benefit from increased
16 scholarship of the African-American experience dur-
17 ing the decades preceding the Civil War and
18 throughout the remainder of the 19th century;

19 (10) it is fitting and proper that the nationally
20 significant resources relating to Harriet Tubman be
21 preserved for future generations as units of the Na-
22 tional Park System so that people may understand
23 and appreciate the contributions of Harriet Tubman
24 to the history and culture of the United States; and

1 (11) in addition to the properties and resources
2 within the boundary of the Harriet Tubman Under-
3 ground Railroad National Historical Park, other as-
4 sociated preserved landscapes (including the
5 Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge) are essential
6 to the visual, historical, and cultural experiences of
7 the Historical Park.

8 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

9 (1) to preserve and promote stewardship of the
10 resources in Auburn, New York, and Caroline, Dor-
11 chester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, relating to
12 the life and contributions of Harriet Tubman;

13 (2) to provide for partnerships with the African
14 Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the States of New
15 York and Maryland, political subdivisions of the
16 States, the Federal Government, local governments,
17 nonprofit organizations, and private property owners
18 for resource protection, research, interpretation, edu-
19 cation, and public understanding and appreciation of
20 the life and contributions of Harriet Tubman;

21 (3) to sustain agricultural and forestry land
22 uses in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties,
23 Maryland, that remain evocative of the landscape
24 during the life of Harriet Tubman; and

1 (4) to establish a competitive grants program
2 for scholars of African-American history relating to
3 Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) CHURCH.—The term “Church” means the
7 Thompson Memorial AME Zion Church located in
8 Auburn, New York.

9 (2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNI-
10 VERSITY.—The term “historically Black college or
11 university” has the meaning given the term “part B
12 institution” in section 322 of the Higher Education
13 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061).

14 (3) PREDOMINANTLY BLACK INSTITUTION.—
15 The term “Predominantly Black Institution” has the
16 meaning given the term in section 499A(c) of the
17 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
18 1099e(c)).

19 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
20 the Secretary of the Interior.

21 (5) VISITOR CENTER.—The term “Visitor Cen-
22 ter” means the Harriet Tubman Underground Rail-
23 road State Park Visitor Center to be constructed
24 under section 5(d).

1 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF HARRIET TUBMAN NATIONAL**
2 **HISTORICAL PARK.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—On the execution of ease-
4 ments with the Church, the Secretary shall—

5 (1) establish the Harriet Tubman National His-
6 torical Park (referred to in this section as the “His-
7 torical Park”) in the City of Auburn, New York, as
8 a unit of the National Park System; and

9 (2) publish notice of the establishment of the
10 Historical Park in the Federal Register.

11 (b) BOUNDARY.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Historical Park shall be
13 comprised of structures and properties associated
14 with the Harriet Tubman home, the Tubman Home
15 for the Aged, the Church, and the Rectory, as gen-
16 erally depicted on the map entitled “Harriet Tub-
17 man National Historical Park—Proposed Bound-
18 ary”, numbered _____, and dated _____.

19 (2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map described
20 in paragraph (1) shall be available for public inspec-
21 tion in the appropriate offices of the National Park
22 Service.

23 (c) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—The Secretary may ac-
24 quire from willing sellers, by donation, purchase with do-
25 nated or appropriated funds, or exchange, land or inter-
26 ests in land within the boundary of the Historical Park.

1 (d) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may
2 provide grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements
3 with—

4 (1) the Church for—

5 (A) historic preservation of, rehabilitation
6 of, research on, and maintenance of properties
7 within the boundary of the Historical Park; and

8 (B) interpretation of the Historical Park;

9 (2) the Fort Hill Cemetery Association for
10 maintenance and interpretation of the gravesite of
11 Harriet Tubman; and

12 (3) the State of New York, any political sub-
13 divisions of the State, the City of Auburn, and non-
14 profit organizations for—

15 (A) preservation and interpretation of re-
16 sources relating to Harriet Tubman in the City
17 of Auburn, New York;

18 (B) conducting research, including archae-
19 ological research; and

20 (C) providing for stewardship programs,
21 education, public access, signage, and other in-
22 terpretive devices at the Historical Park for in-
23 terpretive purposes.

24 (e) INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary may provide
25 interpretive tours to sites located outside the boundaries

1 of the Historical Park in Auburn, New York, that include
2 resources relating to Harriet Tubman.

3 (f) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
5 the date on which funds are made available to carry
6 out this subsection, the Secretary, in cooperation
7 with the Church, shall complete a general manage-
8 ment plan for the Historical Park in accordance
9 with section 12(b) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C.
10 1a–7(b)).

11 (2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall co-
12 ordinate the preparation and implementation of the
13 general management plan for the Harriet Tubman
14 National Historical Park with—

15 (A) the Harriet Tubman Underground
16 Railroad National Historical Park in Maryland;
17 and

18 (B) the National Underground Railroad:
19 Network to Freedom.

20 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HARRIET TUBMAN UN-**
21 **DERGROUND RAILROAD NATIONAL HISTOR-**
22 **ICAL PARK.**

23 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established as a unit
24 of the National Park System the Harriet Tubman Under-
25 ground Railroad National Historical Park (referred to in

1 this section as the “Historical Park”) in Caroline, Dor-
2 chester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland.

3 (b) BOUNDARY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The boundary of the Histor-
5 ical Park shall consist of certain landscapes and as-
6 sociated resources relating to the early life and en-
7 slavement of Harriet Tubman and the Underground
8 Railroad, as generally depicted on the map entitled
9 “Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National
10 Historical Park—Proposed Boundary”, numbered
11 _____, and dated _____.

12 (2) ADDITIONAL SITES.—The Secretary, after
13 consultation with landowners, the State of Maryland,
14 and units of local government, may modify the
15 boundary of the Historical Park to include addi-
16 tional resources relating to Harriet Tubman that—

17 (A) are located within the vicinity of the
18 Historical Park; and

19 (B) are identified in the general manage-
20 ment plan prepared under subsection (g) as ap-
21 propriate for interpreting the life of Harriet
22 Tubman.

23 (3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—On modification of
24 the boundary of the Historical Park under para-
25 graph (2), the Secretary shall make available for

1 public inspection in the appropriate offices of the
2 National Park Service a revised map of the Historical
3 Park.

4 (c) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—The Secretary may ac-
5 quire from willing sellers, by donation, purchase with do-
6 nated or appropriated funds, or exchange, land or an in-
7 terest in land within the boundaries of the Historical
8 Park.

9 (d) GRANTS.—In accordance with section 7(b)(2), the
10 Secretary may provide grants—

11 (1) to the State of Maryland, political subdivi-
12 sions of the State, and nonprofit organizations for
13 the acquisition of less than fee title (including ease-
14 ments) or fee title to land in Caroline, Dorchester,
15 and Talbot Counties, Maryland, within the boundary
16 of the Historical Park; and

17 (2) on execution of a memorandum of under-
18 standing between the State of Maryland and the Di-
19 rector of the National Park Service, to the State of
20 Maryland for the construction of the Harriet Tub-
21 man Underground Railroad State Park Visitor Cen-
22 ter on land owned by the State of Maryland in Dor-
23 chester County, Maryland, subject to the condition
24 that the State of Maryland provide the Director of
25 the National Park Service, at no additional cost, suf-

1 efficient office space and exhibition areas in the Vis-
2 itor Center to carry out the purposes of the Histor-
3 ical Park.

4 (e) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may
5 provide grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements
6 with, the State of Maryland, political subdivisions of the
7 State, nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities,
8 and private property owners for—

9 (1) the restoration or rehabilitation, public use,
10 and interpretation of sites and resources relating to
11 Harriet Tubman;

12 (2) the conduct of research, including archae-
13 ological research;

14 (3) providing stewardship programs, education,
15 signage, and other interpretive devices at the sites
16 and resources for interpretive purposes; and

17 (4)(A) the design and construction of the Vis-
18 itor Center; and

19 (B) the operation and maintenance of the Vis-
20 itor Center.

21 (f) INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary may provide
22 interpretive tours to sites and resources located outside
23 the boundary of the Historical Park in Caroline, Dor-
24 chester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, relating to the
25 life of Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad.

1 (g) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
3 the date on which funds are made available to carry
4 out this subsection, the Secretary, in coordination
5 with the State of Maryland, political subdivisions of
6 the State, and the United States Fish and Wildlife
7 Service, shall complete a general management plan
8 for the Historical Park in accordance with section
9 12(b) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–7(b)).

10 (2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall co-
11 ordinate the preparation and implementation of the
12 general management plan for the Historical Park
13 with—

14 (A) the Harriet Tubman National Histor-
15 ical Park in Auburn, New York;

16 (B) the National Underground Railroad:
17 Network to Freedom;

18 (C) the Maryland Harriet Tubman Under-
19 ground Railroad State Park; and

20 (D) the Harriet Tubman Underground
21 Railroad Byway in Dorchester and Caroline
22 Counties, Maryland.

23 (3) PRIORITY TREATMENT.—The general man-
24 agement plan for the Historical Park shall give pri-
25 ority to the adequate protection of, interpretation of,

1 public appreciation for, archaeological investigation
2 of, and research on Stewart's Canal, the Jacob
3 Jackson home site, the Brodess Farm, the Ben Ross
4 and Anthony Thompson properties on Harrisville
5 Road, and the James Cook site, all of which are pri-
6 vately owned and located in the Blackwater National
7 Wildlife Refuge.

8 (h) BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.—

9 (1) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Secretary
10 shall ensure that, not later than 1 year after the
11 date of enactment of this Act, the National Park
12 Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife
13 Service enter into an interagency agreement that—

14 (A) promotes and mutually supports the
15 compatible stewardship and interpretation of
16 Harriet Tubman resources at the Blackwater
17 National Wildlife Refuge; and

18 (B) provides for the maximum level of co-
19 operation between those Federal agencies to
20 further the purposes of this Act.

21 (2) EFFECT OF ACT.—Nothing in this Act
22 modifies, alters, or amends the authorities of the
23 United States Fish and Wildlife Service in the ad-
24 ministration and management of the Blackwater Na-
25 tional Wildlife Refuge.

1 **SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer
3 the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park and the
4 Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Histor-
5 ical Park in accordance with this Act and the laws gen-
6 erally applicable to units of the National Park System in-
7 cluding—

8 (1) the National Park Service Organic Act (16
9 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and

10 (2) the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461
11 et seq.).

12 (b) PARK REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding sub-
13 section (a), regulations and policies applicable to units of
14 the National Park System shall apply only to Federal land
15 administrated by the National Park Service that is located
16 within the boundary of the Harriet Tubman Underground
17 Railroad National Historical Park.

18 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
20 priated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act
21 (other than subsection (b)), including the provision of Na-
22 tional Park Service personnel and National Park Service
23 management funds for the Harriet Tubman National His-
24 torical Park and the Harriet Tubman Underground Rail-
25 road National Historical Park.

1 (b) GRANTS.—There are authorized to be appro-
2 priated not more than—

3 (1) \$11,000,000 to provide grants to the
4 Church for—

5 (A) historic preservation, rehabilitation,
6 and restoration of resources within the bound-
7 ary of the Harriet Tubman National Historical
8 Park; and

9 (B) the costs of design, construction, in-
10 stallation, and maintenance of exhibits and
11 other interpretive devices authorized under sec-
12 tion 4(d)(1)(B);

13 (2) \$11,000,000 for grants to the State of
14 Maryland for activities authorized under subsections
15 (d)(1) and (e)(4)(A) of section 5; and

16 (3) \$200,000 for fiscal year 2010 and each fis-
17 cal year thereafter for competitive grants to histori-
18 cally Black colleges and universities, Predominately
19 Black Institutions, and minority serving institutions
20 for research into the life of Harriet Tubman and the
21 African-American experience during the years that
22 coincide with the life of Harriet Tubman.

23 (c) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—

24 (1) CHURCH AND VISITOR CENTER GRANTS.—

25 The Federal share of the cost of activities provided

1 grants under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (b)
2 and any maintenance, construction, or utility costs
3 incurred pursuant to a cooperative agreement en-
4 tered into under section 4(d)(1)(A) or section 5(e)
5 shall not be more than 50 percent.

6 (2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNI-
7 VERSITIES.—The Federal share of the cost of activi-
8 ties provided assistance under subsection (b)(3) shall
9 be not more than 75 percent.

10 (3) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-
11 Federal share required under this subsection may be
12 in the form of in-kind contributions of goods or serv-
13 ices fairly valued.

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