

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4867

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2010

Mr. JONES (for himself, Mr. WHITFIELD, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to provide for management of the free-roaming wild horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Refuge.

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 “Corolla Wild Horse  
5       Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WILD HORSES IN AND AROUND THE CURRITUCK**  
2 **NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.**

3 (a) AGREEMENT REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the  
4 Interior shall enter into an agreement with the Corolla  
5 Wild Horse Fund (a nonprofit corporation established  
6 under the laws of the State of North Carolina), the County  
7 of Currituck, North Carolina, and the State of North  
8 Carolina within 180 days after the date of enactment of  
9 this Act to provide for management of free-roaming wild  
10 horses in and around the Currituck National Wildlife Ref-  
11 uge. The agreement shall allow a herd of not less than  
12 100 free-roaming wild horses in and around such refuge.  
13 The agreement shall provide for cost-effective manage-  
14 ment of the horses while ensuring that natural resources  
15 within the refuge are not adversely impacted.

16 (b) CONDITIONS FOR EXCLUDING WILD HORSES  
17 FROM REFUGE.—The Secretary shall not exclude free-  
18 roaming wild horses from any portion of the Currituck  
19 National Wildlife Refuge unless—

20 (1) the Secretary finds that the presence of  
21 free-roaming wild horses on a portion of the Refuge  
22 threatens the survival of an endangered species for  
23 which such land is designated as critical habitat  
24 under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16  
25 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

1           (2) such finding is based on a credible peer-re-  
2       viewed scientific assessment; and

3           (3) the Secretary provides a period of public no-  
4       tice and comment on that finding.

5       (c) HORSE REPLACEMENT.—Nothing in this section  
6       shall be construed to require the Secretary to replace free-  
7       roaming wild horses or otherwise increase the number of  
8       such horses in a case in which the herd numbers fall below  
9       100 as a result of natural causes, including disease or nat-  
10      ural disasters.

11      (d) NO LIABILITY CREATED.—Nothing in this sec-  
12      tion shall be construed as creating liability for the United  
13      States for any damages caused by the free-roaming wild  
14      horses to any person or property located inside or outside  
15      the boundaries of the refuge.

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