

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 925

To improve the Lower East Side Tenement National Historic Site, and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 9, 2013

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following
bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and
Natural Resources

A BILL

To improve the Lower East Side Tenement National Historic
Site, 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 “Lower East Side Tene-
5 ment National Historic Site Improvement Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Lower East Side Tenement Museum
9 (referred to in this section as the “Museum”) was
10 founded in 1988 and has, for the past 25 years, pre-

1 served and interpreted the history of immigration
2 through the personal experiences of generations of
3 newcomers who settled in and built lives on Manhat-
4 tan’s Lower East Side, the iconic immigrant neigh-
5 borhood of the United States;

6 (2) the Director of the National Park Service
7 found the Lower East Side Tenement at 97 Orchard
8 Street to be nationally significant;

9 (3) the Secretary of the Interior designated the
10 Lower East Side Tenement a National Historic
11 Landmark on April 19, 1994;

12 (4) the Director of the National Park Service,
13 through a special resource study, found the Lower
14 East Side Tenement suitable and feasible for inclu-
15 sion in the National Park System;

16 (5) Congress designated the Lower East Side
17 Tenement at 97 Orchard Street as a national his-
18 toric site and as an affiliated site of the National
19 Park System in title I of Public Law 105–378 (112
20 Stat. 3395);

21 (6) the National Park Service prepared a Gen-
22 eral Management Plan (referred to in this section as
23 the “Plan”) for the site in 2006;

24 (7) the Plan recognized the need for space for
25 administrative functions, collections storage, and vis-

1 itor services, including orientation and additional ex-
2 hibits;

3 (8) the Museum obtained a neighboring 1888
4 tenement, 103 Orchard Street, which was restored
5 and renovated to serve as a visitor and education
6 center; and

7 (9) 103 Orchard was declared a contributing
8 property in the Lower East Side National Historic
9 District listed on both the National and New York
10 State Registers of Historic Places.

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

12 (1) to include 103 Orchard Street in New York
13 City as part of the Lower East Side Tenement Na-
14 tional Historic Site;

15 (2) to ensure the preservation, maintenance,
16 and interpretation of the expanded site;

17 (3) to interpret at the site the stories of Holo-
18 caust survivors, Puerto Rican migrants, and post-
19 1965 Chinese immigrants;

20 (4) to enhance appreciation for the profound
21 role immigration has played and continues to play in
22 shaping the evolving national identity of the United
23 States; and

24 (5) to ensure continued interpretation of the
25 nationally significant immigrant phenomenon associ-

1 ated with the Lower East Side of New York City
 2 and the role of the Lower East Side in the history
 3 of immigration to the United States, and to enhance
 4 the interpretation of the Castle Clinton, Ellis Island,
 5 and Statue of Liberty National Monuments.

6 **SEC. 3. LOWER EAST SIDE TENEMENT NATIONAL HISTORIC**
 7 **SITE.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Section 101(a)(4) of Public Law
 9 105–378 (112 Stat. 3395) is amended by striking “the
 10 Lower East Side Tenement at 97 Orchard Street in New
 11 York City is an outstanding survivor” and inserting “the
 12 Lower East Side Tenements at 97 and 103 Orchard
 13 Street in New York City are outstanding survivors”.

14 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 102 of Public Law 105–
 15 378 (112 Stat. 3396) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Lower East
 17 Side Tenement found at 97 Orchard Street” and in-
 18 serting “Lower East Side Tenements found at 97
 19 and 103 Orchard Street”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “which owns
 21 and operates the tenement building at 97 Orchard
 22 Street” and inserting “which owns and operates the
 23 tenement buildings at 97 and 103 Orchard Street”.

24 (c) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 103(a) of Public Law
 25 105–378 (112 Stat. 3396) is amended by striking “the

1 Lower East Side Tenement at 97 Orchard Street, in the
2 City of New York, State of New York, is designated” and
3 inserting “the Lower East Side Tenements at 97 and 103
4 Orchard Street, in the City of New York, State of New
5 York, are designated”.

6 (d) MANAGEMENT.—Section 104(d) of Public Law
7 105–378 (112 Stat. 3397) is amended by striking “the
8 property at 97 Orchard Street” and inserting “the prop-
9 erties at 97 and 103 Orchard Street”.

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