

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1160

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to expand the authorization of the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior to provide service opportunities for young Americans; help restore the nation's natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational and scenic resources; train a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts; and promote the value of public service.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2015

Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. BENNET) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to expand the authorization of the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior to provide service opportunities for young Americans; help restore the nation's natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational and scenic resources; train a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts; and promote the value of public service.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Public Lands Service
3 Corps Act of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO SHORT TITLE.**

5 Section 201 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
6 (16 U.S.C. 1701 note; 107 Stat. 848) is amended to read
7 as follows:

8 **“SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.**

9 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This title may be cited as the
10 ‘Public Lands Service Corps Act of 1993’.

11 “(b) **REFERENCES.**—Any reference contained in any
12 law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the
13 United States to the ‘Public Lands Corps Act of 1993’
14 shall be considered to be a reference to the ‘Public Lands
15 Service Corps Act of 1993’.”.

16 **SEC. 3. REFERENCE.**

17 A reference in this Act to “the Act” is a reference
18 to the Public Lands Service Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C.
19 1721 et seq.; title II of Public Law 91–378).

20 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE**
21 **CORPS ACT OF 1993.**

22 (a) **NAME AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION CHANGES.**—
23 The Act is amended—

24 (1) in the title heading, by striking “**PUBLIC**
25 **LANDS CORPS**” and inserting “**PUBLIC**
26 **LANDS SERVICE CORPS**”;

1 (2) in section 204 (16 U.S.C. 1723), in the
2 heading, by striking “**PUBLIC LANDS CORPS**” and
3 inserting “**PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE CORPS**”;

4 (3) in section 210(a)(2) (16 U.S.C.
5 1729(a)(2)), in the heading, by striking “PUBLIC
6 LANDS”;

7 (4) by striking “Public Lands Corps” each
8 place it appears and inserting “Corps”;

9 (5) by striking “conservation center” each place
10 it appears and inserting “residential conservation
11 center”;

12 (6) by striking “conservation centers” each
13 place it appears and inserting “residential conserva-
14 tion centers”;

15 (7) by striking “appropriate conservation
16 project” each place it appears and inserting “appro-
17 priate natural and cultural resources conservation
18 project”; and

19 (8) by striking “appropriate conservation
20 projects” each place it appears and inserting “ap-
21 propriate natural and cultural resources conservation
22 projects”.

23 (b) FINDINGS.—Section 202(a) (16 U.S.C. 1721(a))
24 of the Act, as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

25 (1) in paragraph (1)—

1 (A) by striking “Corps can benefit” and
 2 inserting “conservation corps can benefit”; and

3 (B) by striking “the natural and cultural”
 4 and inserting “natural and cultural”;

5 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as
 6 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

7 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
 8 lowing:

9 “(2) Participants in conservation corps receive
 10 meaningful education and training, and their experi-
 11 ence with conservation corps provides preparation
 12 for careers in public service.

13 “(3) Young men and women who participate in
 14 the rehabilitation and restoration of the natural, cul-
 15 tural, historic, archaeological, recreational, and sce-
 16 nic treasures of the United States will gain an in-
 17 creased appreciation and understanding of the public
 18 lands and heritage of the United States, and of the
 19 value of public service, and are likely to become life-
 20 long advocates for those values.”;

21 (4) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated by para-
 22 graph (2)), by inserting “, cultural, historic, archae-
 23 ological, recreational, and scenic” after “Many facili-
 24 ties and natural”; and

25 (5) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(6) The work of conservation corps can benefit
2 communities adjacent to public lands and facilities
3 through renewed civic engagement and participation
4 by corps participants and those they serve, improved
5 student achievement, and restoration and rehabilita-
6 tion of public assets.”.

7 (c) PURPOSE.—Section 202(b) (16 U.S.C. 1721(b))
8 of the Act is amended to read as follows:

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

10 “(1) to introduce young men and women to
11 public service while furthering their understanding
12 and appreciation of the natural, cultural, historic,
13 archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of
14 the United States;

15 “(2) to facilitate training and recruitment op-
16 portunities in which service is credited as qualifying
17 experience for careers in the management of such
18 resources;

19 “(3) to instill in a new generation of young men
20 and women from across the United States, including
21 young men and women from diverse backgrounds,
22 the desire to seek careers in resource stewardship
23 and public service by allowing them to work directly
24 with professionals in agencies responsible for the
25 management of the natural, cultural, historic, ar-

1 archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of
2 the United States;

3 “(4) to perform, in a cost-effective manner, ap-
4 propriate natural and cultural resources conservation
5 projects where such projects are not being performed
6 by existing employees;

7 “(5) to assist State and local governments and
8 Indian tribes in performing research and public edu-
9 cation tasks associated with the conservation of nat-
10 ural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational,
11 and scenic resources;

12 “(6) to expand educational opportunities on
13 public lands and by rewarding individuals who par-
14 ticipate in conservation corps with an increased abil-
15 ity to pursue higher education and job training;

16 “(7) to promote public understanding and ap-
17 preciation of the missions and the natural and cul-
18 tural resources conservation work of the partici-
19 pating Federal agencies through training opportuni-
20 ties, community service and outreach, and other ap-
21 propriate means; and

22 “(8) to create a grant program for Indian
23 tribes to establish the Indian Youth Service Corps so
24 that Indian youth can benefit from carrying out

1 projects on Indian lands that the Indian tribes and
 2 communities determine to be priorities.”.

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—Section 203 (16 U.S.C. 1722) of
 4 the Act is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
 6 (7), (8) through (10), and (11) through (13) as
 7 paragraphs (5) through (9), (11) through (13), and
 8 (15) through (17), respectively;

9 (2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and in-
 10 serting the following:

11 “(1) APPROPRIATE NATURAL AND CULTURAL
 12 RESOURCES CONSERVATION PROJECT.—The term
 13 ‘appropriate natural and cultural resources conserva-
 14 tion project’ means any project for the conservation,
 15 restoration, construction, or rehabilitation of nat-
 16 ural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational,
 17 or scenic resources.

18 “(2) CONSULTING INTERN.—The term ‘con-
 19 sulting intern’ means a consulting intern selected
 20 under section 206(a)(2).

21 “(3) CORPS AND PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE
 22 CORPS.—The terms ‘Corps’ and ‘Public Lands Serv-
 23 ice Corps’ mean the Public Lands Service Corps es-
 24 tablished under section 204(a).

1 “(4) CORPS PARTICIPANT.—The term ‘Corps
2 participant’ means an individual enrolled—

3 “(A) in the Corps or the Indian Youth
4 Service Corps; or

5 “(B) as a resource assistant or consulting
6 intern.”;

7 (3) by inserting after paragraph (9) (as redesign-
8 nated by paragraph (1)) the following:

9 “(10) INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.—The
10 term ‘Indian Youth Service Corps’ means a qualified
11 youth or conservation corps established under sec-
12 tion 207 that—

13 “(A) enrolls individuals between the ages
14 of 15 and 25, inclusive, a majority of whom are
15 Indians; and

16 “(B) is established pursuant to a tribal
17 resolution that describes the agreement between
18 the Indian tribe and the qualified youth or con-
19 servation corps to operate an Indian Youth
20 Service Corps program for the benefit of the
21 members of the Indian tribe.”;

22 (4) by amending paragraph (12) (as redesign-
23 nated by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

24 “(12) PUBLIC LANDS.—The term ‘public lands’
25 means any land or water (or interest therein) owned

1 or administered by the United States, including
 2 those areas of coastal and ocean waters, the Great
 3 Lakes and their connecting waters, and submerged
 4 lands over which the United States exercises juris-
 5 diction, except that such term does not include In-
 6 dian lands.”;

7 (5) by amending paragraph (13) (as redesign-
 8 nated by paragraph (1)) as follows:

9 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

10 (i) by striking “full-time,”;

11 (ii) by inserting “on eligible service
 12 lands” after “resource setting”; and

13 (iii) by striking “16” and inserting
 14 “15”;

15 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 16 “and” at the end;

17 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
 18 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

19 (D) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(D) makes available for audit for each fis-
 21 cal year for which the qualified youth or con-
 22 servation corps receives Federal funds under
 23 this Act, all information pertaining to the ex-
 24 penditure of the funds, any matching funds,
 25 and participant demographics.”;

1 (6) by inserting after paragraph 13 (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

3 “(14) RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION CEN-
4 TERS.—The term ‘residential conservation centers’
5 means the facilities authorized under section 205.”;

6 (7) in paragraph (15) (as redesignated by para-
7 graph (1)), by striking “206” and inserting
8 “206(a)(1)”; and

9 (8) in paragraph (16) (as redesignated by para-
10 graph (1))—

11 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
12 “and” at the end;

13 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
14 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(C) with respect to the National Marine
17 Sanctuary System, coral reefs, and other coast-
18 al, estuarine, and marine habitats, and other
19 lands and facilities administered by the Na-
20 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
21 the Secretary of Commerce.”.

22 (e) PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE CORPS PROGRAM.—Sec-
23 tion 204 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1723), as amended by sub-
24 section (a), is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) and
 2 subsections (d) through (f) as subsections (c) and
 3 (d) and subsections (f) through (h), respectively;

4 (2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
 5 following:

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE
 7 CORPS.—There is established in the Department of the
 8 Interior, the Department of Agriculture, and the Depart-
 9 ment of Commerce a Public Lands Service Corps.

10 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF CORPS OFFICE; COORDI-
 11 NATORS; LIAISON.—

12 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES.—

13 “(A) DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—
 14 The Secretary of the Interior shall establish a
 15 department-level office to coordinate the Corps
 16 activities within the Department of the Interior.

17 “(B) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—
 18 The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish
 19 within the Forest Service an office to coordinate
 20 the Corps activities within that agency.

21 “(C) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.—The
 22 Secretary of Commerce shall establish within
 23 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
 24 istration an office to coordinate the Corps ac-
 25 tivities within that agency.

1 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF COORDINATORS.—

2 The Secretary shall designate a Public Lands Serv-
3 ice Corps coordinator for each agency under the ju-
4 risdiction of the Secretary that administers Corps
5 activities.

6 “(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON.—The Sec-
7 retary of the Interior shall establish an Indian Youth
8 Service Corps liaison that will—

9 “(A) provide outreach to Indian tribes
10 about opportunities for establishing Corps and
11 Indian Youth Service Corps programs; and

12 “(B) coordinate with the Tribal Liaison of
13 the Corporation for National Service to identify
14 and establish Corps and Indian Youth Service
15 Corps opportunities for Indian youth.”;

16 (3) by amending subsection (c) (as redesignated
17 by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

18 “(c) PARTICIPANTS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enroll
20 in the Corps individuals who are—

21 “(A) hired by an agency under the juris-
22 diction of the Secretary to perform work au-
23 thorized under this Act; or

24 “(B) members of a qualified youth or con-
25 servation corps with which the Secretary has

1 entered into a cooperative agreement to perform
2 work authorized under this Act.

3 “(2) RESOURCE ASSISTANTS AND CONSULTING
4 INTERNS.—The Secretary may also enroll in the
5 Corps resource assistants and consulting interns in
6 accordance with section 206(a).

7 “(3) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligi-
8 ble for enrollment as a Corps participant, an indi-
9 vidual shall—

10 “(A)(i) be between the ages of 15 and 25,
11 inclusive; or

12 “(ii) in the case of a military veteran, be
13 not older than 35; and

14 “(B) satisfy the requirements of section
15 137(a)(5) of the National and Community Serv-
16 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12591(a)(5)).

17 “(4) TERMS.—Each Corps participant may be
18 enrolled in the Corps for a term of up to 2 years of
19 service, which may be served over a period that ex-
20 ceeds 2 calendar years.

21 “(5) CIVIL SERVICE.—An individual may be en-
22 rolled as a Corps participant without regard to the
23 civil service and classification laws, rules, or regula-
24 tions of the United States.

1 “(6) PREFERENCE.—The Secretary may estab-
 2 lish a preference for the enrollment as Corps partici-
 3 pants individuals who are economically, physically,
 4 or educationally disadvantaged.

5 “(7) LOCAL PREFERENCE.—The Secretary may
 6 establish a preference for enrollment of Corps partici-
 7 pants individuals who live in that State or re-
 8 gion.”;

9 (4) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by para-
 10 graph (1))—

11 (A) in paragraph (1)—

12 (i) by striking “contracts and”; and

13 (ii) by striking “subsection (d)” and
 14 inserting “subsection (f)”;

15 (B) by striking paragraph (2); and

16 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
 17 following:

18 “(2) RECRUITMENT.—The Secretary shall carry
 19 out, or enter into cooperative agreements to provide,
 20 a program to attract eligible youth to the Corps by
 21 publicizing Corps opportunities through high schools,
 22 colleges, employment centers, electronic media, and
 23 other appropriate institutions and means.

24 “(3) PREFERENCE.—In entering into coopera-
 25 tive agreements under paragraph (1) or awarding

1 competitive grants to Indian tribes or tribally au-
 2 thorized organizations under section 207, the Sec-
 3 retary may give preference to qualified youth or con-
 4 servation corps that are located in specific areas
 5 where a substantial portion of members are economi-
 6 cally, physically, or educationally disadvantaged.”;

7 (5) by inserting after subsection (d) (as redesign-
 8 nated by paragraph (1)) the following:

9 “(e) TRAINING.—For purposes of training, the Sec-
 10 retary shall take into account training already received by
 11 Corps participants enrolled from qualified youth or con-
 12 servation corps.”;

13 (6) in subsection (f) (as redesignated by para-
 14 graph (1))—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)—

16 (i) in the heading, by striking “IN
 17 GENERAL.—” and inserting “USE OF
 18 CORPS; PROJECTS.—”;

19 (ii) by striking “The Secretary may
 20 utilize the Corps or any qualified youth or
 21 conservation corps to carry out” and in-
 22 serting the following:

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
 24 use the Corps to carry out, with appropriate su-
 25 pervision and training,”;

1 (iii) by striking “on public lands” and
2 inserting on “on eligible service lands”;
3 and

4 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(B) PROJECTS.—Appropriate natural and
7 cultural resources conservation projects carried
8 out under this section may include—

9 “(i) protecting, restoring, or enhanc-
10 ing ecosystem components to promote spe-
11 cies recovery, improve biological diversity,
12 enhance productivity and carbon sequestra-
13 tion, and enhance adaptability and resil-
14 ience of eligible service lands and resources
15 to climate change and other natural and
16 human disturbances;

17 “(ii) promoting the health of eligible
18 service lands, including—

19 “(I) protecting and restoring wa-
20 tersheds and forest, grassland, ripar-
21 ian, estuarine, marine, or other habi-
22 tat;

23 “(II) reducing the risk of
24 uncharacteristically severe wildfire

1 and mitigating damage from insects,
2 disease, and disasters;
3 “(III) controlling erosion;
4 “(IV) controlling and removing
5 invasive, noxious, or nonnative spe-
6 cies; and
7 “(V) restoring native species;
8 “(iii) collecting biological, archae-
9 ological, and other scientific data, includ-
10 ing climatological information, species pop-
11 ulations and movement, habitat status, and
12 other information;
13 “(iv) assisting in historical and cul-
14 tural research, museum curatorial work,
15 oral history projects, documentary photog-
16 raphy, and activities that support the cre-
17 ation of public works of art related to eligi-
18 ble service lands; and
19 “(v) constructing, repairing, rehabili-
20 tating, and maintaining roads, trails,
21 campgrounds and other visitor facilities,
22 employee housing, cultural and historic
23 sites and structures, and other facilities
24 that further the purposes of this Act.”;

1 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and
2 (3) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

3 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
4 following:

5 “(2) VISITOR SERVICES.—The Secretary may—

6 “(A) enter into or amend an existing coop-
7 erative agreement with a cooperating associa-
8 tion, educational institution, friends group, or
9 similar nonprofit partner organization for the
10 purpose of providing training and work experi-
11 ence to Corps participants in areas such as
12 sales, office work, accounting, and management,
13 provided that the work experience directly re-
14 lates to the conservation and management of el-
15 igible service lands; and

16 “(B) allow Corps participants to help pro-
17 mote visitor safety and enjoyment of eligible
18 service lands, and assist in the gathering of vis-
19 itor use data.

20 “(3) INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary may
21 permit Corps participants to provide interpretation
22 or education services for the public under the direct
23 and immediate supervision of an agency employee—

24 “(A) to provide orientation and informa-
25 tion services to visitors;

1 “(B) to assist agency employees in the de-
 2 livery of interpretive or educational programs
 3 where audience size, environmental conditions,
 4 safety, or other factors make such assistance
 5 desirable;

6 “(C) to present programs that relate the
 7 personal experience of the Corps participants
 8 for the purpose of promoting public awareness
 9 of the Corps, the role of the Corps in public
 10 land management agencies, and the availability
 11 of the Corps to potential participants; and

12 “(D) to create nonpersonal interpretive
 13 products, such as website content, Junior Rang-
 14 er program books, printed handouts, and audio-
 15 visual programs.”;

16 (7) in subsection (g) (as redesignated by para-
 17 graph (1))—

18 (A) in the matter preceding the first para-
 19 graph, by striking “those projects which” and
 20 inserting “priority projects and other projects
 21 that”; and

22 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
 23 ing the following:

24 “(2) will instill in Corps participants a work
 25 ethic and a sense of public service;”; and

1 (8) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(i) OTHER PARTICIPANTS.—The Secretary may
3 allow volunteers from other programs administered or des-
4 ignated by the Secretary to participate as volunteers in
5 projects carried out under this section.

6 “(j) CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of sec-
8 tion 189D(b) of the National and Community Serv-
9 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12645g(b)) shall apply
10 to each individual age 18 or older seeking—

11 “(A) to become a Corps participant;

12 “(B) to receive funds authorized under this
13 Act; or

14 “(C) to supervise or otherwise have regular
15 contact with Corps participants in activities au-
16 thorized under this Act.

17 “(2) ELIGIBILITY PROHIBITION.—If any of
18 paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 189D(c) of
19 the National and Community Service Act of 1990
20 (42 U.S.C. 12645g(c)(1)–(4)) apply to an individual
21 described in paragraph (1), that individual shall not
22 be eligible for the position or activity described in
23 paragraph (1), unless the Secretary provides an ex-
24 emption for good cause.”.

1 (f) RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION CENTERS AND
2 PROGRAM SUPPORT.—Section 205 (16 U.S.C. 1724) of
3 the Act is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (b)—

5 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
6 serting the following:

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

8 (B) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(2) TEMPORARY HOUSING.—The Secretary
10 may make arrangements with another Federal agen-
11 cy, State, local government, or private organization
12 to provide temporary housing for Corps participants
13 as needed and available.

14 “(3) TRANSPORTATION.—In project areas
15 where Corps participants reside at their own homes,
16 the Secretary may provide transportation to and
17 from project sites.”;

18 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
19 section (e);

20 (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(d) MENTORS.—The Secretary may recruit from
23 programs, such as Federal volunteer and encore service
24 programs, and from veterans groups, military retirees, and
25 active duty personnel, such adults as may be suitable and

1 qualified to provide training, mentoring, and crew-leading
 2 services to Corps participants.”; and

3 (4) in subsection (e)(as redesignated by para-
 4 graph (2)), by striking “that are appropriate” and
 5 all that follows through the period and inserting
 6 “that the Secretary determines to be necessary for
 7 a residential conservation center.”.

8 (g) RESOURCE ASSISTANTS AND CONSULTING IN-
 9 TERNs.—Section 206 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1725) is
 10 amended—

11 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND**
 12 **CONSULTING INTERNS**” before the period;

13 (2) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and in-
 14 serting the following:

15 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

16 “(1) RESOURCE ASSISTANTS.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
 18 provide individual placements of resource assist-
 19 ants with any agency under the jurisdiction of
 20 the Secretary that carries out appropriate nat-
 21 ural and cultural resources conservation
 22 projects to carry out research or resource pro-
 23 tection activities on behalf of the agency.

1 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for se-
 2 lection as a resource assistant, an individual
 3 shall be at least 17 years of age.

4 “(C) PREFERENCE.—In selecting resource
 5 assistants for placement under this paragraph,
 6 the Secretary shall give a preference to individ-
 7 uals who are enrolled in an institution of higher
 8 education or are recent graduates from an insti-
 9 tution of higher education, with particular at-
 10 tention given to ensuring full representation of
 11 women and participants from Historically Black
 12 Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-serving in-
 13 stitutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

14 “(2) CONSULTING INTERNS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
 16 provide individual placements of consulting in-
 17 terns with any agency under the jurisdiction of
 18 the Secretary that carries out appropriate nat-
 19 ural and cultural resources conservation
 20 projects to carry out management analysis ac-
 21 tivities on behalf of the agency.

22 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for se-
 23 lection as a consulting intern, an individual
 24 shall be enrolled in, and have completed at least
 25 1 full year at, a graduate or professional school

1 that has been accredited by an accrediting body
2 recognized by the Secretary of Education.

3 “(b) USE OF EXISTING NONPROFIT ORGANIZA-
4 TIONS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever 1 or more non-
6 profit organizations can provide appropriate recruit-
7 ment and placement services to fulfill the require-
8 ments of this section, the Secretary may implement
9 this section through such organizations.

10 “(2) EXPENSES.—Participating organizations
11 shall contribute to the expenses of providing and
12 supporting the resource assistants or consulting in-
13 terns from sources of funding other than the Sec-
14 retary, at a level of not less than 25 percent of the
15 total costs (15 percent of which may be from in-kind
16 sources) of each participant in the resource assistant
17 or consulting intern program who has been recruited
18 and placed through that organization.

19 “(3) REPORTING.—Each participating organi-
20 zation shall be required to submit an annual report
21 evaluating the scope, size, and quality of the pro-
22 gram, including the value of work contributed by the
23 resource assistants and consulting interns, to the
24 mission of the agency.”.

1 (h) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The Act is amended
 2 by redesignating sections 207 through 211 (16 U.S.C.
 3 1726 through 1730) as sections 209 through 213, respec-
 4 tively.

5 (i) INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.—The Act is
 6 amended by inserting after section 206 (16 U.S.C. 1725)
 7 the following:

8 **“SEC. 207. INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.**

9 “(a) AUTHORIZATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREE-
 10 MENTS AND COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—The Secretary is au-
 11 thorized to enter into cooperative agreements with, or
 12 make competitive grants to, Indian tribes and qualified
 13 youth or conservation corps for the establishment and ad-
 14 ministration of Indian Youth Service Corps programs to
 15 carry out appropriate natural and cultural resources con-
 16 servation projects on Indian lands.

17 “(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive assist-
 18 ance under this section, an Indian tribe or a qualified
 19 youth or conservation corps shall submit to the Secretary
 20 an application in such manner and containing such infor-
 21 mation as the Secretary may require, including—

22 “(1) a description of the methods by which In-
 23 dian youth will be recruited for and retained in the
 24 Indian Youth Service Corps;

1 “(2) a description of the projects to be carried
2 out by the Indian Youth Service Corps;

3 “(3) a description of how the projects were
4 identified; and

5 “(4) an explanation of the impact of, and the
6 direct community benefits provided by, the proposed
7 projects.”.

8 (j) **GUIDANCE.**—The Act is amended by inserting
9 after section 207 (as amended by subsection (i)) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 **“SEC. 208. GUIDANCE.**

12 “Not later than 18 months after funds are made
13 available to the Secretary to carry out this Act, the Sec-
14 retary shall issue guidelines for the management of pro-
15 grams under the jurisdiction of the Secretary that are au-
16 thorized under this Act.”.

17 (k) **LIVING ALLOWANCES AND TERMS OF SERV-**
18 **ICE.**—Section 209 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1726) (as redes-
19 ignated by subsection (h)) is amended by striking sub-
20 sections (a), (b), and (c) and inserting the following:

21 “(a) **LIVING ALLOWANCES.**—

22 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall provide
23 each Corps participant with a living allowance in an
24 amount established by the Secretary.

1 “(2) TRAVEL COSTS.—The Secretary may reim-
 2 burse Corps participants for travel costs at the be-
 3 ginning and end of the term of service of the Corps
 4 participants.

5 “(b) TERMS OF SERVICE.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Corps participant
 7 shall agree to participate for such term of service as
 8 may be established by the Secretary.

9 “(2) CONSULTATIONS.—With respect to the In-
 10 dian Youth Service Corps, the term of service shall
 11 be established in consultation with the affected In-
 12 dian tribe or tribally authorized organization.

13 “(c) HIRING PREFERENCE AND FUTURE EMPLOY-
 14 MENT.—The Secretary may—

15 “(1) grant to a Corps participant credit for
 16 time served as a Corps participant, which may be
 17 used toward future Federal hiring;

18 “(2) provide to a former participant of the
 19 Corps or the Indian Youth Service Corps non-
 20 competitive hiring status for a period of not more
 21 than 2 years after the date on which the service of
 22 the candidate in the Corps or the Indian Youth
 23 Service Corps was complete, if the candidate—

24 “(A) has served a minimum of 960 hours
 25 on an appropriate natural or cultural resources

1 conservation project that included at least 120
2 hours through the Corps or the Indian Youth
3 Service Corps; and

4 “(B) meets Office of Personnel Manage-
5 ment qualification standards for the position for
6 which the candidate is applying;

7 “(3) provide to a former resource assistant or
8 consulting intern noncompetitive hiring status for a
9 period of not more than 2 years after the date on
10 which the individual has completed an under-
11 graduate or graduate degree, respectively, from an
12 accredited institution, if the candidate—

13 “(A) successfully fulfilled the resource as-
14 sistant or consulting intern program require-
15 ments; and

16 “(B) meets Office of Personnel Manage-
17 ment qualification standards for the position for
18 which the candidate is applying; and

19 “(4) provide, or enter into contracts or coopera-
20 tive agreements with qualified employment agencies
21 to provide, alumni services such as job and edu-
22 cation counseling, referrals, verification of service,
23 communications, and other appropriate services to
24 Corps participants who have completed the term of
25 service.”.

1 (l) NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.—
 2 Section 210 (16 U.S.C. 1727) of the Act (as redesignated
 3 by subsection (h)) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a) (as amended by subsection
 5 (a)(4)), in the first sentence—

6 (A) by striking “participant in the Corps
 7 or a resource assistant” and inserting “Corps
 8 participant”; and

9 (B) by striking “participant or resource as-
 10 sistant” and inserting “Corps participant”; and

11 (2) in subsection (b)—

12 (A) by striking “either participants in the
 13 Corps or resource assistants” and inserting
 14 “Corps participants”; and

15 (B) by striking “or a resource assistant”.

16 (m) NONDISPLACEMENT.—Section 211 of the Act
 17 (16 U.S.C. 1728) (as redesignated by subsection (h)) is
 18 amended by striking “activities carried out” and all that
 19 follows through the period and inserting “Corps partici-
 20 pants.”.

21 (n) FUNDING.—Section 212 of the Act (16 U.S.C.
 22 1729) (as redesignated by subsection (h)) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (a)—

24 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) in the second sentence, by striking
 2 “non-federal sources” and inserting
 3 “sources other than the Secretary”; and

4 (ii) by inserting after the second sen-
 5 tence the following: “The Secretary may
 6 pay up to 90 percent of the costs of a
 7 project if the Secretary determines that the
 8 reduction is necessary to enable participa-
 9 tion from a greater range of organizations
 10 or individuals.”; and

11 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or In-
 12 dian Youth Service Corps” after “Corps” each
 13 place it appears;

14 (2) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
 15 lows:

16 “(b) FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER NATIONAL AND
 17 COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT.—To carry out this Act, the
 18 Secretary shall be eligible to apply for and receive assist-
 19 ance under section 121(b) of the National and Community
 20 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 12571(b)).”; and

21 (3) in subsection (c)—

22 (A) by striking “section 211” and insert-
 23 ing “section 213”; and

24 (B) by inserting “or Indian Youth Service
 25 Corps” after “Corps”.

1 (o) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
2 213 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1730) (as redesignated by sub-
3 section (h)) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “year” and all
5 that follows through the period and inserting
6 “year.”;

7 (2) by striking subsection (b); and

8 (3) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
9 section (b).

○