

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2923

To redesignate the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site as the “Saint-Gaudens National Park for the Arts”, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 12, 2016

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. AYOTTE) 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 redesignate the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site as the “Saint-Gaudens National Park for the Arts”, 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 “Saint-Gaudens Na-  
5       tional Park for the Arts Redesignation Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds that—

8               (1) Augustus Saint-Gaudens was one of the  
9       greatest sculptors in the United States, creating

1 well-known public monuments to Civil War heroes,  
 2 peerless bas-reliefs, and the 1907 United States gold  
 3 coinage, which are considered to be the most beau-  
 4 tiful coins ever minted;

5 (2) from 1885 until the death of Augustus  
 6 Saint-Gaudens in 1907, Augustus Saint-Gaudens  
 7 maintained a residence and studios in Cornish, New  
 8 Hampshire, where many of the most famous works  
 9 of Augustus Saint-Gaudens were created and per-  
 10 fected;

11 (3) the presence of Saint-Gaudens in Cornish,  
 12 New Hampshire, attracted leaders and practitioners  
 13 in painting, sculpture, etching, writing, poetry,  
 14 drama, dance, musical composition, musical per-  
 15 formance, architecture, landscape architecture, juris-  
 16 prudence, politics, and other artistic disciplines to  
 17 relocate to Cornish, forming the Cornish Art Colony,  
 18 which was—

19 (A) one of the earliest art colonies; and

20 (B) one of the richest and most diverse  
 21 concentrations of practicing artists in the  
 22 United States;

23 (4) the core of the Cornish Art Colony is cur-  
 24 rently preserved at Aspet, the estate of Augustus  
 25 Saint-Gaudens, and at the Blow-Me-Down Farm,

1 which served as a social hub for the Colony, both of  
 2 which are part of the Saint-Gaudens National His-  
 3 toric Site; and

4 (5) throughout the long history of the Saint-  
 5 Gaudens National Historic Site, the Historic Site  
 6 and the partner organization of the Historic Site,  
 7 the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, have promoted the  
 8 arts through the regular presentation of musical  
 9 concerts, historical dramas, visual arts exhibitions,  
 10 artistic workshops, and the oldest artist-in-residence  
 11 program in the National Park Service, creating a vi-  
 12 brant artistic community that promotes the creation,  
 13 performance, and interpretation of the artistic herit-  
 14 age of the United States.

15 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF SAINT-GAUDENS NATIONAL PARK**  
 16 **FOR THE ARTS.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Saint-Gaudens National His-  
 18 toric Site shall be known and designated as the “Saint-  
 19 Gaudens National Park for the Arts”.

20 (b) AMENDMENTS TO PUBLIC LAW 88–543.—Public  
 21 Law 88–543 (78 Stat. 749) is amended—

22 (1) by striking “National Historic Site” each  
 23 place it appears and inserting “National Park for  
 24 the Arts”;

1           (2) in section 2(a), by striking “historic site”  
2           and inserting “Saint-Gaudens National Park for the  
3           Arts”; and

4           (3) in section 4(a), by inserting before the pe-  
5           riod at the end the following: “, except that laws (in-  
6           cluding regulations) or rules that are applicable sole-  
7           ly to units of the National Park System that are  
8           designated as a National Park shall not apply to the  
9           Saint-Gaudens National Park for the Arts”.

10          (c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-  
11          tion, document, record, map, or other paper of the United  
12          States to the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site shall  
13          be considered to be a reference to the “Saint-Gaudens Na-  
14          tional Park for the Arts”.

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