

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2182

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2017

Received

AN ACT

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to Congress on the alternatives for the final disposition of Plum Island, including preservation of the island for conservation, education, and research, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Plum Island Preserva-
3 tion Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The Federal Government has owned Plum
7 Island, New York, since 1899.

8 (2) Since 1954, the Plum Island Animal Dis-
9 ease Center has conducted unrivaled scientific re-
10 search on a variety of infectious animal-borne dis-
11 eases, including foot-and-mouth disease, resulting,
12 most recently, in the development of a new cell line
13 that rapidly and reliably detects this highly debili-
14 tating disease of livestock.

15 (3) Over 62 years, the Center has had a strong,
16 proven record of safety.

17 (4) \$23,200,000 in Federal dollars have been
18 spent on upgrades to, and the maintenance of, the
19 Center since January 2012.

20 (5) In addition to the Center, Plum Island con-
21 tains cultural, historical, ecological, and natural re-
22 sources of regional and national significance.

23 (6) Plum Island is situated where the Long Is-
24 land Sound and Peconic Bay meet, both of which
25 are estuaries that are part of the National Estuary

1 Program and are environmentally and economically
2 significant to the region.

3 (7) The Federal Government has invested hun-
4 dreds of millions of Federal dollars over the last 2
5 decades to make long-term improvements with re-
6 spect to the conservation and management needs of
7 Long Island Sound and Peconic Bay.

8 (8) In a report submitted to Congress on April
9 11, 2016, entitled “National Bio- and Agro-Defense
10 Facility Construction Plan Update” the Department
11 of Homeland Security noted that the new National
12 Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility under construction
13 on such date in Manhattan, Kansas, is, as of such
14 date, fully paid for through a combination of Fed-
15 eral appropriations and funding from the State of
16 Kansas.

17 **SEC. 3. REPORT REQUIRED ON FINAL DISPOSITION OF**
18 **PLUM ISLAND.**

19 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment
20 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
21 shall submit to Congress a report containing the following:

22 (1) The alternatives for the final disposition of
23 Plum Island, including the transfer of ownership to
24 another Federal agency, a State or local govern-
25 ment, a nonprofit organization, or a combination

1 thereof for the purpose of education, research, or
2 conservation.

3 (2) With respect to each such alternative final
4 disposition, an analysis of—

5 (A) the effect such disposition would have
6 on the island's resources;

7 (B) the remediation responsibilities under
8 such disposition;

9 (C) any future legislation necessary to im-
10 plement such disposition;

11 (D) the possible implications and issues, if
12 any, of implementing such disposition;

13 (E) the costs of such disposition, including
14 any potential costs related to the transition,
15 hazard mitigation, and cleanup of property that
16 would be incurred by a recipient of the property
17 under such disposition; and

18 (F) the potential revenue from such dis-
19 position.

20 **SEC. 4. SUSPENSION OF ACTION.**

21 No action, including any pre-sale marketing activity,
22 may be taken to carry out section 538 of title V of division
23 D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public
24 Law 112–74; 125 Stat. 976) until at least 180 days after

1 the report required by section 3 has been submitted to
2 Congress.

Passed the House of Representatives July 25, 2017.

Attest: KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.