

Union Calendar No. 831

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3593

[Report No. 115–1070, Part I]

To amend the Wilderness Act to authorize U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct certain activities to secure the international land borders of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

DECEMBER 10, 2018

Additional sponsors: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PALMER, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. WEBER of Texas

DECEMBER 10, 2018

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

DECEMBER 10, 2018

Committee on Homeland Security discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 28, 2017]

A BILL

To amend the Wilderness Act to authorize U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct certain activities to secure the international land borders of the United States, 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 “Securing Our Borders*
5 *and Wilderness Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION ACCESS**
7 **TO WILDERNESS AREAS.**

8 *Section 4(d) of the Wilderness Act is amended by add-*
9 *ing at the end the following:*

10 “(8) U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
11 ACCESS.—

12 “(A) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—*Notwith-*
13 *standing any other provision of this Act, the*
14 *Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Pro-*
15 *tection may conduct the following activities*
16 *within a wilderness area for the purpose of se-*
17 *curing the international land borders of the*
18 *United States:*

19 “(i) Access structures, installations,
20 and roads.

21 “(ii) Execute search and rescue oper-
22 ations.

23 “(iii) Use motor vehicles, motorboats,
24 and motorized equipment.

1 “(iv) *Conduct patrols on foot and on*
2 *horseback.*

3 “(v) *Notwithstanding any other law or*
4 *regulation relating specifically to use of air-*
5 *craft in a wilderness area or in the airspace*
6 *above a wilderness area, use aircraft, in-*
7 *cluding approach, landing, and takeoff.*

8 “(vi) *Deploy tactical infrastructure*
9 *and technology.*

10 “(vii) *Construct and maintain roads*
11 *and physical barriers.*

12 “(B) *PROTECTION OF WILDERNESS CHAR-*
13 *ACTER.—Any activity conducted by the Commis-*
14 *sioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection*
15 *under subparagraph (A) shall be carried out in*
16 *a manner that, to the greatest extent possible,*
17 *protects the wilderness character of the area.”.*

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