

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2130

To establish within the Department of the Interior the Outdoor Recreation
Advisory Committee.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 15, 2017

Mr. TESTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish within the Department of the Interior the
Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

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 “Outdoor Economy
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. OUTDOOR RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within
8 the Department of the Interior a committee, to be known
9 as the “Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee” (re-
10 ferred to in this section as the “Committee”).

1 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

2 (1) COMPOSITION.—The Committee shall be
3 composed of 17 members, of whom—

4 (A) one shall be the Chief of the Forest
5 Service (or a designee);

6 (B) one shall be the Director of the United
7 States Fish and Wildlife Service (or a des-
8 ignee);

9 (C) one shall be the Director of the Bu-
10 reau of Land Management (or a designee);

11 (D) one shall be the Director of the Na-
12 tional Park Service (or a designee);

13 (E) one shall be the Chief of Engineers (or
14 a designee);

15 (F) one shall be the Commissioner of the
16 Bureau of Reclamation (or a designee); and

17 (G) eleven shall be appointed jointly by the
18 Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of
19 the Interior, with special consideration given to
20 appointees who represent diverse or underrep-
21 resented groups in the outdoor recreation econ-
22 omy, of whom one shall be a representative of
23 each of—

24 (i) State fish and wildlife management
25 agencies;

- 1 (ii) Tribal governments;
- 2 (iii) hunting organizations;
- 3 (iv) angler organizations;
- 4 (v) motorized recreation organiza-
- 5 tions;
- 6 (vi) horsemen organizations;
- 7 (vii) human-powered transportation
- 8 organizations;
- 9 (viii) organizations that provide out-
- 10 reach or education to encourage youth par-
- 11 ticipation in the outdoors, with specific
- 12 preference given to organizations that en-
- 13 gage economically disadvantaged or other
- 14 underserved youth populations;
- 15 (ix) veterans service organizations;
- 16 (x) the outdoor recreation retail in-
- 17 dustry; and
- 18 (xi) conservation organizations.

19 (2) DATE OF APPOINTMENTS.—The appoint-
 20 ment of a member of the Committee shall be made
 21 not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
 22 of this Act.

23 (3) TERM; VACANCIES.—

24 (A) TERM.—A member shall be appointed
 25 for the life of the Committee.

1 (B) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Com-
 2 mittee—

3 (i) shall not affect the powers of the
 4 Committee; and

5 (ii) shall be filled in the same manner
 6 as the original appointment was made.

7 (4) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—

8 The Committee shall select a chairperson and vice
 9 chairperson from among the members of the Com-
 10 mittee.

11 (c) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet at the
 12 call of the chairperson.

13 (d) DUTIES.—

14 (1) STUDY.—The Committee shall conduct a
 15 study and develop recommendations relating to the
 16 following:

17 (A) Increasing public access to public land.

18 (B) Identifying and addressing the mainte-
 19 nance needs on public land that most directly
 20 impact recreational opportunities.

21 (C) Reducing barriers for underserved
 22 communities to engage in outdoor recreation.

23 (D) Promoting new and existing service
 24 opportunities on public land for youth and oth-
 25 ers.

1 (E) Methods to engage the outdoor recre-
2 ation community to curb the spread of invasive
3 species.

4 (F) Any other strategies to strengthen the
5 outdoor recreation economy and increase re-
6 sponsible recreation on public land.

7 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, and not less fre-
9 quently than once every 2 years thereafter, the Com-
10 mittee shall submit to Congress a report that con-
11 tains—

12 (A) a detailed statement of the findings
13 and conclusions of the Committee under para-
14 graph (1); and

15 (B) recommendations of the Committee for
16 such legislation and administrative actions as
17 the Committee considers to be appropriate.

18 (e) POWERS.—

19 (1) HEARINGS.—The Committee may hold such
20 hearings, meet and act at such times and places,
21 take such testimony, and receive such evidence as
22 the Committee considers to be advisable to carry out
23 this section.

24 (2) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee may
 2 secure directly from a Federal department or
 3 agency such information as the Committee con-
 4 siderers to be necessary to carry out this section.

5 (B) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—On re-
 6 quest of the chairperson of the Committee, the
 7 head of a Federal department or agency shall
 8 provide the information to the Committee.

9 (3) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Committee may
 10 use the United States mails in the same manner and
 11 under the same conditions as other Federal depart-
 12 ments and agencies.

13 (f) COMMITTEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

14 (1) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

15 (A) NON-FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A mem-
 16 ber of the Committee who is not an officer or
 17 employee of the Federal Government shall be
 18 compensated at a rate equal to the daily equiva-
 19 lent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed
 20 for level IV of the Executive Schedule under
 21 section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for
 22 each day (including travel time) during which
 23 the member is engaged in the performance of
 24 the duties of the Committee.

1 (B) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of
 2 the Committee who is an officer or employee of
 3 the Federal Government shall serve without
 4 compensation in addition to the compensation
 5 received for the services of the member as an
 6 officer or employee of the Federal Government.

7 (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the
 8 Committee shall be allowed travel expenses, includ-
 9 ing per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates author-
 10 ized for an employee of an agency under subchapter
 11 I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while
 12 away from the home or regular place of business of
 13 the member in the performance of the duties of the
 14 Committee.

15 (3) STAFF.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—The chairperson of the
 17 Committee may, without regard to the civil
 18 service laws (including regulations), appoint
 19 and terminate an executive director and such
 20 other additional personnel as are necessary to
 21 enable the Committee to perform the duties of
 22 the Committee.

23 (B) CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE DIREC-
 24 TOR.—The employment of an executive director

1 shall be subject to confirmation by the Com-
2 mittee.

3 (C) COMPENSATION.—

4 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
5 in subparagraph (B), the chairperson of
6 the Committee may fix the compensation
7 of the executive director and other per-
8 sonnel without regard to the provisions of
9 chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter
10 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating
11 to classification of positions and General
12 Schedule pay rates.

13 (ii) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The
14 rate of pay for the executive director and
15 other personnel shall not exceed the rate
16 payable for level V of the Executive Sched-
17 ule under section 5316 of title 5, United
18 States Code.

19 (4) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTER-
20 MITTENT SERVICES.—The chairperson of the Com-
21 mittee may procure temporary and intermittent serv-
22 ices in accordance with section 3109(b) of title 5,
23 United States Code, at rates for individuals that do
24 not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of

1 basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive
2 Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

3 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
5 \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year, to remain available until
6 expended.

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