

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5555

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land in California as the Monterey Bay National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. LICCARDO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land in California as the Monterey Bay National Heritage Area, 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 “Monterey Bay National
5 Heritage Area Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, in
8 consultation with the State of California, local organiza-

1 tions and governmental agencies, Tribal Governments,
2 nonprofit organizations, and other appropriate entities, in-
3 cluding the Monterey Bay Economic Partnership, shall
4 conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of
5 designating the areas described in subsection (b) as a Na-
6 tional Heritage Area, to be known as the “Monterey Bay
7 National Heritage Area”.

8 (b) DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA.—The areas to be
9 studied under subsection (a) include—

10 (1) Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and San
11 Luis Obispo counties in the State of California; and

12 (2) any other area in the State of California
13 that—

14 (A) has heritage aspects that are similar to
15 the heritage aspects of an area described in
16 paragraph (1); and

17 (B) is adjacent to, or in the vicinity of, an
18 area described in paragraph (1).

19 (c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under
20 subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with sec-
21 tion 120103(a) of title 54, United States Code.

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