

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 949

To ensure that the National Park Service is fully staffed, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 11 (legislative day, MARCH 10), 2025

Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. GALLEGOS, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To ensure that the National Park Service is fully staffed,
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 “Protect our Parks Act
5 of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

1 (2) SERVICE.—The term “Service” means the
2 National Park Service.

3 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STAFFING AND PER-**
4 **SONNEL.**

5 As soon as practicable after the date of enactment
6 of this Act, using funds previously appropriated to the
7 Secretary for such purposes, the Secretary shall—

8 (1) take such actions as are necessary—

9 (A) to ensure that the units of the Na-
10 tional Park System are fully staffed to ensure
11 visitor safety and enjoyment and natural and
12 cultural resource protection at the units of the
13 National Park System; and

14 (B) to ensure that all maintenance staff
15 positions at the Service are filled; and

16 (2) reinstate any individuals who were involun-
17 tarily removed or otherwise terminated from employ-
18 ment with the Service during the period beginning
19 on January 20, 2025, and ending on February 25,
20 2025.

21 **SEC. 4. CONTINUATION OF AUTHORIZED NATIONAL PARK**
22 **SERVICE PROJECTS.**

23 The Secretary shall have the authority to continue
24 to carry out any Service project for which funds are au-
25 thorized or appropriated under—

- 1 (1) the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement
2 Act (16 U.S.C. 6801 et seq.);
- 3 (2) the Great American Outdoors Act (Public
4 Law 116–152; 134 Stat. 682);
- 5 (3) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
6 (Public Law 117–58; 135 Stat. 429); or
- 7 (4) Public Law 117–169 (commonly known as
8 the “Inflation Reduction Act of 2022”) (136 Stat.
9 1818).

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