

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-33
OFFERED BY MRS. BICE OF OKLAHOMA

At the end of subtitle B of title XVII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 17__ . AMERICA'S LIVING LIBRARY PROJECT.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 (1) CONTROL.—The term “control” means hav-
4 ing the ability, directly or indirectly, to determine
5 (without regard to whether exercised through 1 or
6 more corporate structures) the manner in which an
7 entity conducts activities, through any means, in-
8 cluding—

9 (A) ownership interest;

10 (B) authority to commit the real or finan-
11 cial assets of the entity;

12 (C) position as a director, officer, or part-
13 ner of the entity; or

14 (D) contractual arrangement.

15 (2) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
16 means the Department of the Interior.

17 (3) FOREIGN ENTITY OF CONCERN.—The term
18 “foreign entity of concern” has the meaning given

1 the term in section 40207 of the Infrastructure In-
2 vestment and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18741).

3 (4) HIGH-PRIORITY SPECIES.—The term “high-
4 priority species” has the meaning given the term by
5 the Secretary, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Sec-
6 retary of Health and Human Services, and the Di-
7 rector of the National Museum of Natural History
8 of the Smithsonian Institution, based on factors
9 such as the conservation status, economic, cultural,
10 or ecological value, biomedical or public health rel-
11 evance, and rarity of the species.

12 (5) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe”
13 has the meaning given the term “Indian tribe” in
14 section 102 of the Federally Recognized Indian
15 Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5130).

16 (6) OFFICE.—The term “office” means the of-
17 fice established or designated under subsection
18 (e)(1).

19 (7) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means
20 the America’s Living Library Project established
21 under subsection (b).

22 (8) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
23 the Secretary of the Interior (acting through the Di-
24 rector of the United States Geological Survey).

1 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
2 a pilot program, to be known as the “America’s Living
3 Library Project”.

4 (c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the program is to fa-
5 cilitate the collection of new genomic data from species
6 that are found in units of the National Park System.

7 (d) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program,
9 the Secretary shall coordinate—

10 (A) the collection, cataloging, and whole-
11 genome sequencing of samples from animals,
12 plants, fungi, and microbes found on selected
13 units of the National Park System, subject to—

14 (i) applicable permitting and consulta-
15 tion requirements under the Endangered
16 Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et
17 seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16
18 U.S.C. 703 et seq.), and the Marine Mam-
19 mal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C.
20 1361 et seq.);

21 (ii) applicable permitting requirements
22 under section 42 of title 18, United States
23 Code; and

1 (iii) applicable requirements under the
2 Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16
3 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.);

4 (B) the establishment of a publicly avail-
5 able genomic database for resulting genomic
6 data collected under the program, including
7 long-read sequence data, genome assemblies,
8 annotations, and associated metadata, except
9 that the database shall withhold from public re-
10 lease any personally identifiable information
11 and any sensitive collection locality information,
12 including precise collection site locations or co-
13 ordinates, as determined to be appropriate by
14 the Secretary to protect personnel, specimens,
15 and resources;

16 (C) as the Secretary determines to be ap-
17 propriate, the integration of the Integrated
18 Taxonomic Information System and any other
19 systems, such as the PLANTS Database of the
20 Department of Agriculture and the World Reg-
21 ister of Marine Species, to provide scientific
22 name concepts for organisms to accompany the
23 genomic database; and

24 (D) the long-term storage of samples col-
25 lected under the program.

1 (2) PARTNER AGENCIES.—In carrying out para-
2 graph (1), the Secretary shall coordinate with the
3 Director of the National Park Service, the Secretary
4 of Agriculture, the Director of the Smithsonian Mu-
5 seum of Natural History, the Director of the Na-
6 tional Center for Biotechnology Information of the
7 National Institutes of Health, and any other appro-
8 priate Federal agency.

9 (e) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM OFFICE.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
11 a new, or designate an existing, office within the
12 United States Geological Survey to administer the
13 program.

14 (2) STAFF.—The Secretary shall hire staff to
15 carry out the program in accordance with this sec-
16 tion.

17 (3) AUTHORITY.—The office shall have the au-
18 thority—

19 (A) to carry out the program in accordance
20 with this section;

21 (B) subject to such terms as the Secretary
22 may determine appropriate, to enter into and
23 implement any contract, lease, cooperative
24 agreement, or other transaction that is nec-
25 essary to carry out the program with—

1 (i) any Federal agency, including the
2 Department of Agriculture and the De-
3 partment of Defense; or

4 (ii) any public or private person or en-
5 tity;

6 (C) to develop mechanisms to receive in-
7 kind contributions from biotechnology compa-
8 nies, subject to requirements that the mecha-
9 nisms developed shall—

10 (i) limit in-kind contributions to the
11 provision of resources to carry out the pro-
12 gram, such as materials, instrumentation,
13 or technological capabilities (such as
14 deoxyribonucleic acid sequencing); and

15 (ii) include vetting for, and prevention
16 of, conflicts of interest; and

17 (D) to use, subject to the consent of the
18 applicable Federal agency, the services, per-
19 sonnel, and facilities of any other Federal agen-
20 cy.

21 (f) SELECTION OF UNITS OF THE NATIONAL PARK
22 SYSTEM.—

23 (1) INITIAL SELECTION.—Not later than 180
24 days after the date of enactment of this Act, based
25 on the criteria described in paragraph (2), the Sec-

1 retary shall select 5 units of the National Park Sys-
2 tem at which to carry out the program initially.

3 (2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary, in
4 consultation with the Director of the National Park
5 Service, shall select units of the National Park Sys-
6 tem under this subsection based on objective criteria
7 that take into account—

8 (A) the biological landscape of the unit of
9 the National Park System;

10 (B) the feasibility of implementation at,
11 and operational readiness of, the unit of the
12 National Park System;

13 (C) the quality of the education and public
14 engagement opportunities at the unit of the Na-
15 tional Park System;

16 (D) the research value and alignment of
17 the unit of the National Park System with pro-
18 gram priorities, including, where appropriate,
19 genomic sequencing and associated metadata
20 needs;

21 (E) the geographic and ecological diversity
22 across the National Park System; and

23 (F) any other criteria established by the
24 Secretary.

1 (3) ADDITIONAL UNITS OF THE NATIONAL
2 PARK SYSTEM.—Not later than 2 years after the
3 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall se-
4 lect, in accordance with the criteria under paragraph
5 (2), an additional 20 units of the National Park
6 System at which to carry out the program.

7 (4) NOTICE OF SELECTIONS.—Not later than
8 15 days after the date on which a unit of the Na-
9 tional Park System is selected under this subsection,
10 the Secretary shall make publicly available on a De-
11 partment website a notice that—

12 (A) lists any units of the National Park
13 System selected as part of that selection proc-
14 ess; and

15 (B) provides, for each unit of the National
16 Park System selected as part of that selection
17 process, a brief statement of reasons describing
18 how the selection satisfies the criteria described
19 in paragraph (2).

20 (g) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

21 (1) DATA STANDARDS.—In carrying out the
22 program, the Secretary shall—

23 (A) leverage existing and emerging data
24 standards to ensure—

1 (i) high-quality data are obtained
2 under the program; and

3 (ii) program data are considered usa-
4 ble and interoperable, with appropriate
5 metadata to be included;

6 (B) ensure that data outputs under the
7 program—

8 (i)(I) meet applicable Federal data
9 standards for biological data; or

10 (II) if there are no applicable Federal
11 data standards described in subclause (I),
12 meet data standards for the program es-
13 tablished by the Secretary, in consultation
14 with relevant Federal agencies, based on
15 findability, accessibility, interoperability,
16 and reusability data principles and using
17 industry best practices;

18 (ii) as appropriate, comply with De-
19 partment policies relating to species listed
20 as endangered or threatened under the En-
21 dangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C.
22 1531 et seq.); and

23 (iii) are updated to comply with any
24 applicable United States Geological Survey
25 standards for biological data; and

1 (C) ensure that appropriate cybersecurity
2 and access safeguards are implemented to pro-
3 tect the data generated or stored under the pro-
4 gram, including by ensuring that data outputs
5 under the program are updated as necessary to
6 meet applicable Federal cybersecurity standards
7 for genomic data, including controls consistent
8 with the National Institute of Standards and
9 Technology special publications 800–53 (relat-
10 ing to Security and Privacy Controls for Infor-
11 mation Systems and Organizations) and 800–
12 111 (relating to Guide to Storage Encryption
13 Technologies for End User Devices) or any suc-
14 cessor framework.

15 (2) LONG-TERM STORAGE.—The Secretary shall
16 consult with the Secretary of Agriculture and the
17 Director of the National Museum of Natural History
18 of the Smithsonian Institution with respect to stor-
19 age capabilities for the management and long-term
20 storage of samples collected under the program, sub-
21 ject to the following:

22 (A) Ownership of any samples collected
23 under the program shall not be transferred, but
24 samples may be housed with the Smithsonian
25 Institution, the Department of Agriculture, or

1 another qualified repository pursuant to a writ-
2 ten repository agreement, which shall provide
3 that access to samples collected under the pro-
4 gram shall be managed by the respective insti-
5 tutional collection managers, with—

6 (i) the natural history collections to be
7 managed by the Director of the National
8 Museum of Natural History of the Smith-
9 sonian Institution; and

10 (ii) the germplasm repository to be
11 managed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

12 (B) Before any samples are collected under
13 the program, the Secretary, in coordination
14 with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Di-
15 rector of the National Museum of Natural His-
16 tory of the Smithsonian Institution, shall—

17 (i) evaluate the species to be sampled
18 to identify which species need to be col-
19 lected for long-term storage;

20 (ii) from among the species identified
21 under clause (i), identify which species
22 should be considered to be high-priority
23 species;

24 (iii) ensure that all samples proposed
25 for collection and long-term storage under

1 the program are evaluated in accordance
2 with appropriate standards identified by
3 the Secretary to minimize the risk of col-
4 lecting or storing disease vectors, patho-
5 gens, or other harmful biological agents;
6 and

7 (iv) require that any microbial or
8 pathogen material identified through an
9 evaluation under clause (iii) as requiring
10 enhanced biosafety or biosecurity measures
11 shall be—

12 (I) accessioned and stored sepa-
13 rately from other program samples in
14 a distinct, access-controlled collection;
15 and

16 (II) handled and stored only in
17 facilities with containment and oper-
18 ational controls appropriate to the
19 identified risk, consistent with appli-
20 cable Federal biosafety and biosecu-
21 rity requirements.

22 (C) Any samples identified for long-term
23 storage under subparagraph (B)(i) shall be—

24 (i) collected and stored under the pro-
25 gram; and

1 (ii) preserved in the natural history
2 collections to be managed by the Director
3 of the National Museum of Natural His-
4 tory of the Smithsonian Institution for the
5 purposes of later research and long-term
6 preservation.

7 (D) Any high-priority species identified
8 under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall be collected
9 for storage in each of—

10 (i) the natural history collections to be
11 managed by the Director of the National
12 Museum of Natural History of the Smith-
13 sonian Institution; and

14 (ii) the germplasm repository to be
15 managed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

16 (E) Any physical samples collected under
17 the program shall not be transferred, exported,
18 or loaned outside the United States.

19 (F) Any physical storage, curation, and
20 laboratory processing of samples collected under
21 the program shall occur within facilities located
22 in the United States.

23 (3) SAMPLING AND COLLECTION PROCE-
24 DURES.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary
25 shall—

1 (A) establish sampling and collection pro-
2 cedures and policies consistent with applicable
3 Department rules and standards, including per-
4 mitting and consultation requirements under
5 the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C.
6 1531 et seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act
7 (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.), section 42 of title 18,
8 United States Code, the Lacey Act Amend-
9 ments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.), and
10 the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16
11 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.); and

12 (B) develop sampling plans that leverage
13 existing research and monitoring programs
14 within the Department.

15 (4) SEQUENCING AND DATA PROCESSING.—In
16 carrying out the program, the Secretary shall—

17 (A) partner with the Secretary of Agri-
18 culture, the Director of the National Museum of
19 Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution,
20 and the heads of other applicable Federal agen-
21 cies to sequence genomic information from sam-
22 ples collected under the program;

23 (B) develop and use standardized sequene-
24 ing protocols to ensure consistency and com-
25 parability of data; and

1 (C) incorporate automated data processing
2 and quality checks to ensure the reliability of
3 the data.

4 (h) TRIBAL CONSULTATION.—In implementing the
5 program, the Secretary shall engage in consultation with
6 Indian Tribes in accordance with section 306108 of title
7 54, United States Code, Department policies on Tribal
8 consultation, and other applicable law.

9 (i) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 180
10 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
11 shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress
12 an implementation plan for the program that provides the
13 following:

14 (1) A description of the expansion of genomic
15 sequencing under the program to additional units of
16 the National Park System under subsection (f)(3),
17 including the consideration of partnerships with
18 companies, contractors, and third parties to assist
19 the office in carrying out the expansion.

20 (2) An outline of methods in which the program
21 could be expanded to include other federally man-
22 aged land and Federal programs and facilities that
23 manage biological resources, including land and pro-
24 grams or facilities managed by the Bureau of Land
25 Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife

1 Service, and the Forest Service, including units of
2 the National Wildlife Refuge System and units of
3 the National Fish Hatchery System.

4 (3) A plan to facilitate, prior to public release,
5 expedited access pathways or other non-public serv-
6 ices (including bulk export application programming
7 interfaces and any computer resources supported by
8 the program within the United States) for the devel-
9 opment, training, or evaluation of artificial intel-
10 ligence models, to be limited to entities organized
11 under the laws of the United States that are not
12 owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any
13 foreign entity of concern.

14 (j) REPORTS.—

15 (1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years
17 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
18 retary, in consultation with the Secretary of Ag-
19 riculture, shall submit to the appropriate com-
20 mittees of Congress a methodological review
21 and report of preliminary findings of the pro-
22 gram.

23 (B) INCLUSION.—The review and report
24 submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include
25 a plan for the sustainable and long-term fund-

1 ing of the program with recommendations relat-
2 ing to—

3 (i) a graduated subscription model de-
4 veloped in coordination with the Director
5 of the National Institute of Standards and
6 Technology and the Director of the Na-
7 tional Institutes of Health for the database
8 established under subsection (d)(1), the
9 cost of which shall be based on the size
10 and usage of the accessing organization;
11 and

12 (ii) potential partnerships with insti-
13 tutions of higher education, philanthropic
14 organizations, and nongovernmental orga-
15 nizations, such as the National Park Foun-
16 dation, to secure grants and additional
17 funding for the program in accordance
18 with applicable policies of the Department.

19 (2) FINAL REPORT.—As soon as practicable
20 after the date on which the program is terminated
21 under subsection (1), the Secretary, in consultation
22 with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall submit to
23 the appropriate committees of Congress a methodo-
24 logical review and report that describes the final
25 findings with respect to the program.

1 (k) PROGRAM FUNDING.—There are authorized to be
2 appropriated to carry out this section—

3 (1) to the Secretary for program oversight and
4 management of the conduct of genome sequencing in
5 selected units of the National Park System—

6 (A) \$16,500,000 for each of fiscal years
7 2027 and 2028;

8 (B) \$36,000,000 for fiscal year 2029; and

9 (C) \$54,000,000 for each of fiscal years
10 2030 and 2031;

11 (2) to the National Museum of Natural History
12 of the Smithsonian Institution for sample storage—

13 (A) \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years
14 2027 and 2028;

15 (B) \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 2029; and

16 (C) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years
17 2030 and 2031;

18 (3) to the National Center for Agricultural Uti-
19 lization Research of the Department of Agriculture
20 for sample storage—

21 (A) \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years
22 2027 and 2028;

23 (B) \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 2029; and

24 (C) \$9,000,000 for each of fiscal years
25 2030 and 2031;

1 (4) to the National Animal Germplasm Pro-
2 gram of the Department of Agriculture for sample
3 storage—

4 (A) \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years
5 2027 and 2028;

6 (B) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2029; and

7 (C) \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years
8 2030 and 2031; and

9 (5) to the National Center for Biotechnology
10 Information of the National Institutes of Health for
11 program data storage—

12 (A) \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years
13 2027 and 2028;

14 (B) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2029; and

15 (C) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years
16 2030 and 2031.

17 (l) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority to
18 carry out the program terminates on the date that is 10
19 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

