

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-2
OFFERED BY MR. MCKINLEY OF WEST VIRGINIA

At the end of the bill, add the following new title:

1 **TITLE IX—NATIONAL HERITAGE**
2 **AREA**

3 **SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This title may be cited as the “National Heritage
5 Area Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 902. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this title:

8 (1) **FEASIBILITY STUDY.**—The term “feasibility
9 study” means a study conducted by the Secretary,
10 or conducted by one or more other interested parties
11 and reviewed and approved by the Secretary, in ac-
12 cordance with the criteria and processes required by
13 section 905, to determine whether a study area
14 meets the criteria to be designated by Federal stat-
15 ute as a National Heritage Area.

16 (2) **INDIAN TRIBE.**—The term “Indian Tribe”
17 means any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, na-
18 tion, pueblo, village, or other community the name
19 of which is included on the list most recently pub-

1 lished by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to
2 section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian
3 Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131).

4 (3) LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.—The term
5 “local coordinating entity” means the entity des-
6 ignated by Federal statute to—

7 (A) carry out, in partnership with other in-
8 dividuals and entities, the management plan for
9 a National Heritage Area; and

10 (B) operate a National Heritage Area, in-
11 cluding through the implementation of projects
12 and programs among diverse partners in a Na-
13 tional Heritage Area.

14 (4) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term “manage-
15 ment plan” means the management plan for a Na-
16 tional Heritage Area required under this title.

17 (5) NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.—The term
18 “National Heritage Area” means—

19 (A) each National Heritage Area, National
20 Heritage Corridor, Natural Preservation Com-
21 mission, National Heritage Canalway, National
22 Heritage Route, Heritage Corridor, Cultural
23 Heritage Corridor, Heritage Partnership, and
24 National Heritage Partnership, the Shenandoah
25 Valley Battlefields National Historic District,

1 or other area designated by Federal statute
2 with the explicit purpose of establishing a na-
3 tional heritage area designated by Congress be-
4 fore or on the date of enactment of this Act;
5 and

6 (B) each National Heritage Area des-
7 ignated by Federal statute after the date of en-
8 actment of this Act, unless the law designating
9 the area exempts that area from the National
10 Heritage Area System by specific reference to
11 this title.

12 (6) NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA SYSTEM.—The
13 term “National Heritage Area System” means the
14 system of National Heritage Areas established by
15 this title.

16 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
17 the Secretary of the Interior.

18 (8) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
19 means a specific geographic area that is the subject
20 of a feasibility study under section 905.

21 (9) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “Tribal
22 government” means the governing body of an Indian
23 Tribe.

1 **SEC. 903. NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA SYSTEM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—In order to recognize certain
3 areas of the United States that tell nationally significant
4 stories and to conserve, enhance, and interpret the areas'
5 natural, historic, scenic, and cultural resources that to-
6 gether illustrate significant aspects of our country's herit-
7 age, there is established a National Heritage Area System
8 through which the Secretary may provide technical and
9 financial assistance to local coordinating entities to sup-
10 port the establishment, development, and continuity of
11 National Heritage Areas.

12 (b) NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA SYSTEM.—The Na-
13 tional Heritage Area System shall be composed of all Na-
14 tional Heritage Areas.

15 (c) RELATIONSHIP TO THE NATIONAL PARK SYS-
16 TEM.—

17 (1) RELATIONSHIP TO NATIONAL PARK
18 UNITS.—The Secretary shall encourage participation
19 and assistance by any unit of the National Park
20 System located near or encompassed by any Na-
21 tional Heritage Area in local initiatives for that Na-
22 tional Heritage Area that conserve and interpret re-
23 sources consistent with an approved management
24 plan for the National Heritage Area.

25 (2) APPLICABILITY OF LAWS.—National Herit-
26 age Areas shall not be—

1 (A) considered to be units of the National
2 Park System; or

3 (B) subject to the authorities applicable to
4 units of the National Park System.

5 **SEC. 904. NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA SYSTEM MANAGE-**
6 **MENT.**

7 (a) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
9 a National Heritage Area is included in the National
10 Heritage Area System outlined by this title, the local
11 coordinating entity of the National Heritage Area
12 shall submit to the Secretary for approval a manage-
13 ment plan for the National Heritage Area.

14 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The management plan
15 shall—

16 (A) incorporate an integrated and coopera-
17 tive approach for the protection, enhancement,
18 and interpretation of the natural, cultural, his-
19 toric, scenic, and recreational resources of the
20 National Heritage Area;

21 (B) be developed using a comprehensive
22 planning approach that includes—

23 (i) opportunities for stakeholders, in-
24 cluding community members, local and re-
25 gional governments, Tribal governments,

1 businesses, nonprofit organizations, and
2 other interested parties—

3 (I) to be involved in the planning
4 process; and

5 (II) to review and comment on
6 draft management plans; and

7 (ii) documentation of the planning
8 and public participation processes, includ-
9 ing a description of—

10 (I) the means by which the man-
11 agement plan was prepared;

12 (II) the stakeholders involved in
13 the process; and

14 (III) the timing and method of
15 stakeholder involvement;

16 (C) include—

17 (i) an inventory of—

18 (I) the resources located in the
19 National Heritage Area; and

20 (II) any other property in the
21 National Heritage Area that—

22 (aa) is related to the themes
23 of the National Heritage Area;
24 and

1 (bb) should be preserved, re-
2 stored, managed, or maintained
3 because of the significance of the
4 property;

5 (ii) comprehensive policies, strategies
6 and recommendations for the conservation,
7 funding, management, and development of
8 the National Heritage Area;

9 (iii) a description of actions that the
10 Federal, Tribal, State, and local govern-
11 ments, private organizations, and individ-
12 uals have agreed to take to protect the
13 natural, historical, cultural, scenic, and
14 recreational resources of the National Her-
15 itage Area;

16 (iv) a program of implementation for
17 the management plan by the local coordi-
18 nating entity that includes a description
19 of—

20 (I) actions to facilitate ongoing
21 collaboration among partners to pro-
22 mote plans for resource protection,
23 restoration, and construction; and

24 (II) specific commitments for im-
25 plementation that have been made by

1 the local coordinating entity or any
2 government, organization, or indi-
3 vidual for the first 5 years of oper-
4 ation;

5 (v) the identification of sources of
6 funding for carrying out the management
7 plan;

8 (vi) analysis and recommendations for
9 means by which Federal, Tribal, State,
10 and local programs, including the role of
11 the National Park Service in the National
12 Heritage Area, may best be coordinated to
13 carry out this subsection; and

14 (vii) an interpretive plan for the Na-
15 tional Heritage Area; and

16 (D) recommend policies and strategies for
17 resource management that consider and detail
18 the application of appropriate land and water
19 management techniques, including the develop-
20 ment of intergovernmental and interagency co-
21 operative agreements to protect the natural,
22 historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and rec-
23 reational resources of the National Heritage
24 Area.

1 (3) EXCEPTIONS.—The requirements in para-
2 graph (2) shall not apply to management plans in
3 effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (b) EVALUATIONS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year before
6 the authorization for Federal funding expires for a
7 National Heritage Area, the Secretary shall—

8 (A) conduct an evaluation of the accom-
9 plishments of that National Heritage Area; and

10 (B) prepare and submit a report detailing
11 the evaluation required by subparagraph (A)
12 to—

13 (i) the Committee on Natural Re-
14 sources of the House of Representatives;
15 and

16 (ii) the Committee on Energy and
17 Natural Resources of the Senate.

18 (2) EVALUATION COMPONENTS.—An evaluation
19 prepared under paragraph (1) shall—

20 (A) assess the progress of the local coordi-
21 nating entity with respect to—

22 (i) accomplishing the purposes of the
23 authorizing legislation for the National
24 Heritage Area; and

1 (ii) achieving the goals and objectives
2 of the approved management plan for the
3 National Heritage Area;

4 (B) analyze the Federal, Tribal, State,
5 local, and private investments in the National
6 Heritage Area to assess the impact of the in-
7 vestments; and

8 (C) review the management structure,
9 partnership relationships, and funding of the
10 National Heritage Area.

11 (3) RESULTS OF EVALUATION.—Based upon
12 the evaluation under paragraph (1), the Secretary
13 shall prepare a report with recommendations for the
14 National Park Service’s continued role, if any, with
15 respect to the National Heritage Area. If the report
16 recommends that Federal funding for the National
17 Heritage Area be—

18 (A) continued, the report shall include an
19 analysis of—

20 (i) ways in which Federal funding for
21 the National Heritage Area may be re-
22 duced or eliminated over time;

23 (ii) the appropriate time period nec-
24 essary to achieve the recommended reduc-
25 tion or elimination; and

1 (iii) justification for the continued
2 funding in light of other National Park
3 Service core responsibilities and priorities;
4 or

5 (B) eliminated, the report shall include a
6 description of potential impacts on conserva-
7 tion, interpretation, and sustainability of the
8 National Heritage Area.

9 (4) UPDATES; ADDITIONAL EVALUATIONS.—

10 (A) UPDATES.—The Secretary may satisfy
11 the requirement under paragraph (1) for a Na-
12 tional Heritage Area by updating an evaluation
13 that was completed for that National Heritage
14 Area not more than 5 years before another
15 evaluation would otherwise be required under
16 paragraph (1).

17 (B) ADDITIONAL EVALUATIONS.—The Sec-
18 retary may conduct additional evaluations as
19 the Secretary deems appropriate.

20 (c) COORDINATION.—The head of any Federal agen-
21 cy planning to conduct activities that may have an impact
22 on a designated National Heritage Area is encouraged to
23 consult and coordinate these activities with the Secretary
24 and the local coordinating entity to the maximum extent
25 practicable.

1 **SEC. 905. STUDY AREAS.**

2 (a) FEASIBILITY STUDIES.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out
4 or certify a study to assess the suitability and feasi-
5 bility of designating a specific geographic area as a
6 National Heritage Area to be included in the Na-
7 tional Heritage Area System.

8 (2) PREPARATION.—The feasibility study shall
9 be carried out—

10 (A) by the Secretary in consultation with
11 Tribal, State, and local historic preservation of-
12 ficers, State and local historical societies, State
13 and local tourism offices, and other appropriate
14 organizations and governmental agencies; or

15 (B) by interested individuals or entities, if
16 the Secretary certifies that the completed study
17 meets the requirements of paragraph (4).

18 (3) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 1 year
19 after receiving a study carried out by interested indi-
20 viduals or entities under paragraph (2)(B) the Sec-
21 retary shall review and certify whether the study
22 meets the requirements of paragraph (4).

23 (4) REQUIREMENTS.—A study under paragraph
24 (1) shall include analysis, documentation, and deter-
25 mination on whether the study area—

1 (A) has an assemblage of natural, historic,
2 and cultural resources that—

3 (i) represent distinct aspects of the
4 heritage of the United States;

5 (ii) are worthy of recognition, con-
6 servation, interpretation, and continuing
7 use; and

8 (iii) would be best managed—

9 (I) through partnerships among
10 public and private entities; and

11 (II) by linking diverse and some-
12 times noncontiguous resources;

13 (B) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs,
14 and folklife that are a valuable part of the story
15 of the United States;

16 (C) provides outstanding opportunities—

17 (i) to conserve natural, historic, cul-
18 tural, or scenic features; and

19 (ii) for recreation and education;

20 (D) contains resources that—

21 (i) are important to any identified
22 themes of the study area; and

23 (ii) retain a degree of integrity capa-
24 ble of supporting interpretation;

1 (E) includes Tribal governments, residents,
2 business interests, nonprofit organizations, and
3 State and local governments that—

4 (i) are involved in the planning of the
5 study area;

6 (ii) have developed a conceptual finan-
7 cial plan that outlines the roles of all par-
8 ticipants in the study area, including the
9 Federal Government; and

10 (iii) have demonstrated support for
11 the designation of the study area;

12 (F) has a potential local coordinating enti-
13 ty to work in partnership with the individuals
14 and entities described in paragraph (1) to de-
15 velop the study area while encouraging State
16 and local economic activity; and

17 (G) has a conceptual boundary map that is
18 supported by the public.

19 (b) REPORT.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—For each study carried out
21 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to
22 the Committee on Natural Resources of the House
23 of Representatives and the Committee on Energy
24 and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that
25 describes—

1 (A) the findings of the study described in
2 subsection (a) for that study area; and

3 (B) any conclusions and recommendations
4 of the Secretary.

5 (2) TIMING.—

6 (A) With respect to a study carried out by
7 the Secretary in accordance with paragraph
8 (2)(A)(i), the Secretary shall submit a report
9 under subparagraph (A) not later than 3 years
10 after the date on which funds are first made
11 available to carry out the study.

12 (B) With respect to a study carried out by
13 interested individuals or entities in accordance
14 with paragraph (2)(A)(ii), the Secretary shall
15 submit a report under subparagraph (A) not
16 later than 180 days after the date on which the
17 Secretary certifies under paragraph (2)(B) that
18 the study meets the requirements of paragraph
19 (3).

20 **SEC. 906. LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITIES.**

21 (a) DUTIES.—For any year that Federal funds have
22 been made available under this title for a National Herit-
23 age Area, the local coordinating entity for that National
24 Heritage Area shall—

1 (1) submit to the Secretary an annual report
2 that describes the activities, expenses, and income of
3 the local coordinating entity (including grants to any
4 other entities during the year that the report is
5 made);

6 (2) make available to the Secretary for audit all
7 records relating to the expenditure of Federal funds
8 and any matching funds; and

9 (3) require, with respect to all agreements au-
10 thorizing expenditure of Federal funds by other or-
11 ganizations, that the organizations receiving the
12 funds make available to the Secretary for audit all
13 records concerning the expenditure of the funds.

14 (b) **AUTHORITIES.**—The local coordinating entity
15 may, subject to the prior approval of the Secretary, for
16 the purposes of preparing and implementing the approved
17 management plan for the National Heritage Area, use
18 Federal funds made available through this title to—

19 (1) make grants to Indian Tribes, a State, a
20 local government, nonprofit organizations, and other
21 parties within the National Heritage Area;

22 (2) enter into cooperative agreements with or
23 provide technical assistance to the Indian Tribes,
24 State, a local government, nonprofit organizations,
25 Federal agencies, and other interested parties;

1 (3) hire and compensate staff, which may in-
2 clude individuals with expertise in natural, cultural,
3 and historic resources conservation; economic and
4 community development; and heritage planning;

5 (4) obtain money or services, including those
6 provided under other Federal laws or programs;

7 (5) contract for goods or services; and

8 (6) support activities of partners and any other
9 activities that further the purposes of the National
10 Heritage Area and are consistent with the approved
11 management plan.

12 (c) PROHIBITIONS ON THE ACQUISITION OF REAL
13 PROPERTY.—The local coordinating entity may not use
14 Federal funds received under this title to acquire real
15 property or any interest in real property.

16 (d) HERITAGE AREA COMMISSIONS.—

17 (1) Section 804(j) of division B of H.R. 5666
18 (Appendix D) as enacted into law by section 1(a)(4)
19 of Public Law 106–554 (54 U.S.C. 320101 note;
20 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A– 295; 123 Stat. 1294; 128
21 Stat. 3802) is amended by striking “shall termi-
22 nate” and all that follows through the period and in-
23 serting “shall terminate on September 30, 2034.”.

24 (2) Section 295D(d) of Public Law 109–338
25 (120 Stat. 1833; 130 Stat. 962) is amended by

1 striking “shall terminate” and all that follows
2 through the period and inserting “shall terminate on
3 September 30, 2034.”.

4 **SEC. 907. PROPERTY OWNERS AND REGULATORY PROTEC-**
5 **TIONS.**

6 Nothing in this title shall be construed to—

7 (1) abridge the rights of any property owner,
8 whether public or private, including the right to re-
9 frain from participating in any plan, project, pro-
10 gram, or activity conducted within the National Her-
11 itage Area;

12 (2) require any property owner to permit public
13 access (including Federal, Tribal, State, or local gov-
14 ernment access) to such property or to modify any
15 provisions of Federal, Tribal, State, or local law with
16 regard to public access or use of private lands;

17 (3) alter any duly adopted land use regulation
18 or any approved land use plan or any other regu-
19 latory authority of any Federal, Tribal, or State, or
20 local government, or to convey any land use or other
21 regulatory authority to any local coordinating entity;

22 (4) authorize or imply the reservation or appro-
23 priation of water or water rights;

1 (5) diminish the authority of the State to man-
2 age fish and wildlife including the regulation of fish-
3 ing and hunting within the National Heritage Area;

4 (6) create any liability, or have any effect on
5 any liability under any other law, of any private
6 property owner with respect to any persons injured
7 on such private property;

8 (7) affect the authority of any Federal official
9 to provide technical or financial assistance under
10 any other law;

11 (8) modify any law or regulation authorizing
12 Federal officials to manage Federal land under their
13 control or limit the discretion of Federal land man-
14 agers to implement approved land use plans within
15 the boundaries of a National Heritage Area, nor
16 shall this title be construed to modify, alter, or
17 amend any authorized uses of these Federal lands;
18 or

19 (9) enlarge or diminish the treaty rights of any
20 Indian Tribe within the National Heritage Area.

21 **SEC. 908. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
23 sion of law, for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2037,
24 there is authorized to be appropriated not more than
25 \$750,000 for each National Heritage Area.

1 (b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made available under
2 subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.

3 (c) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—

4 (1) FEDERAL SHARE.—Notwithstanding any
5 other provision of law, including any law designating
6 a National Heritage Area, the Federal share of the
7 total cost of any activity funded with appropriations
8 authorized by subsection (a) shall not be more than
9 50 percent.

10 (2) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-
11 Federal share of the total cost of any activity funded
12 with appropriations authorized by subsection (a)
13 may be in the form of in-kind contributions of goods
14 or services fairly valued.

15 (3) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding section
16 909(b), for each National Heritage Area established
17 before the date of the enactment of this Act without
18 a non-Federal cost share requirement or with a non-
19 Federal cost share requirement of less than 50 per-
20 cent—

21 (A) the non-Federal cost share require-
22 ment, or lack thereof, shall remain at the pre-
23 viously enacted level for 2 full fiscal years after
24 the date of the enactment of this Act; and

1 (B) after the period referred to in subpara-
2 graph (A), the non-Federal cost share require-
3 ment shall increase by 10 percent annually until
4 the non-Federal share is consistent with para-
5 graph (1).

6 (d) **AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.**—Notwith-
7 standing any other provision of law, the Secretary may
8 provide assistance to a National Heritage Area during any
9 fiscal year for which appropriations are authorized under
10 subsection (a).

11 **SEC. 909. STATUTORY CLARIFICATION.**

12 (a) **AUTHORIZATION LIMITATIONS.**—Any provision of
13 law enacted before the date of the enactment of this Act
14 that provides for a termination, expiration, or other time
15 limitation on the authorization for a National Heritage
16 Area is hereby superceded and shall have no effect.

17 (b) **FUNDING LIMITATIONS.**—Any provision of law
18 enacted before the date of the enactment of this Act that
19 provides for a termination, expiration, or other limitation
20 on the time or amount of an authorization of appropria-
21 tions for a National Heritage Area is hereby superceded
22 and shall have no effect.

23 (c) **EVALUATIONS.**—Any provision of law enacted be-
24 fore the date of the enactment of this Act that requires
25 the Secretary to conduct an evaluation of or submit a re-

1 port on the accomplishments of a National Heritage Area
2 is hereby superceded and shall have no effect.

3 (d) OTHER AUTHORITIES.—Any provision of law en-
4 acted before the date of the enactment of this Act that
5 provides for the establishment, management, administra-
6 tion, operation, or otherwise affects a National Heritage
7 Area and is not explicitly otherwise provided for in this
8 title shall not be affected by this title.

