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115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1403

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to establish the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps to place youth and veterans in national service positions to conserve, restore, and enhance the great outdoors of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 21, 2017

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. UDALL, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. KING, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. HEINRICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

DECEMBER 4, 2018

Reported by Ms. MURKOWSKI, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

A BILL

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to establish the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps to place youth and veterans in national service positions to conserve, restore, and enhance the great outdoors of the United States, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “21st Century Con-
3 servation Service Corps Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

5 Section 202 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
6 (16 U.S.C. 1721) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 202. PURPOSES.**

8 “The purposes of this title are—

9 “(1) to engage youth and veterans in the
10 United States in civilian national service positions to
11 conserve, rebuild, and enhance the outdoors, natural
12 resources, infrastructure, and recreation assets of
13 the United States;

14 “(2) to increase public access to, and use of,
15 public and tribal land and water, infrastructure, and
16 natural, cultural, and historical resources and treas-
17 ures, while spurring economic development and out-
18 door recreation and addressing backlogged mainte-
19 nance on public land;

20 “(3) to conserve, restore, and enhance public
21 and tribal land and water, infrastructure, and nat-
22 ural, cultural, and historical resources and treasures
23 by carrying out high-quality, cost-effective 21st Cen-
24 tury Conservation Service Corps projects;

25 “(4) to ensure that, in any State or territory of
26 the United States or on any tribal land, the activi-

1 ties and expertise of Corpsmembers will be accessible
2 to any public organization, nonprofit organization,
3 or tribal agency responsible for the stewardship of
4 land and water that is—

5 “(A) public;

6 “(B) tribal; or

7 “(C) private and has a direct or recognized
8 public benefit, in coordination with the owner of
9 the land or water;

10 “(5) to place youth and veterans in civilian na-
11 tional service positions to protect, restore, and en-
12 hance the great outdoors, natural resources, infra-
13 structure, and recreation assets of the United States
14 in a cost-effective manner without undue duplication
15 or overlap of activities or programs carried out by
16 Federal agencies;

17 “(6) to provide youth and veterans placed in ei-
18 vilian national service positions with opportunities to
19 gain in-demand skills, credentials, and education to
20 prepare for, and transition to, success in the 21st
21 century workforce; and

22 “(7) to channel widespread interest among
23 youth and veterans in serving in civilian national
24 service positions to help conserve, restore, and en-
25 hance public and tribal land and water, infrastruc-

1 ture, and natural, cultural, and historical resources
2 and treasures—

3 “(A) for the enjoyment and use of future
4 generations; and

5 “(B) to develop the next generation of out-
6 door stewards, entrepreneurs, recreationists,
7 and sportsmen and sportswomen.”.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 (a) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Section 203 of the Public Lands
10 Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1722) is amended to read
11 as follows:

12 **~~“SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS.~~**

13 ~~“In this title:~~

14 ~~“(1) 21CSC.—The term ‘21CSC’ means the~~
15 ~~21st Century Conservation Service Corps established~~
16 ~~by section 204(a).~~

17 ~~“(2) 21CSC ORGANIZATION.—The term~~
18 ~~‘21CSC organization’ means an organization or as-~~
19 ~~sociation that meets the requirements described in~~
20 ~~section 204(d).~~

21 ~~“(3) 21CSC PROJECT.—The term ‘21CSC~~
22 ~~project’ means a project that is carried out by a~~
23 ~~21CSC organization.~~

1 “(4) CORPSMEMBER.—The term ‘Corpsmember’
2 means an individual who is selected by a 21CSC or-
3 ganization to serve on a 21CSC project.

4 “(5) INDIAN.—The term ‘Indian’ has the mean-
5 ing given the term in section 101 of the National
6 and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
7 12511).

8 “(6) INDIAN YOUTH 21ST CENTURY CONSERVA-
9 TION SERVICE CORPS.—The term ‘Indian Youth
10 21st Century Conservation Service Corps’ means a
11 program of a 21CSC organization that—

12 “(A) enrolls participants, the majority of
13 whom are Indians; and

14 “(B) is established pursuant to an agree-
15 ment between a tribal agency and a 21CSC or-
16 ganization for the benefit of the members of the
17 tribal agency.

18 “(7) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘institution
20 of higher education’ has the meaning given the
21 term in section 102 of the Higher Education
22 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

23 “(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘institution
24 of higher education’ does not include—

1 “(i) an institution described in section
 2 101(b) of the Higher Education Act of
 3 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(b)); or

4 “(ii) an institution outside the United
 5 States, as described in section
 6 102(a)(1)(C) of that Act (20 U.S.C.
 7 1002(a)(1)(C)).

8 “(8) PARTICIPATING ENTITY.—The term ‘par-
 9 ticipating entity’ means a Federal entity described in
 10 section 204(c)(2).

11 “(9) PRIORITY PROJECT.—The term ‘priority
 12 project’ means a 21CSC project conducted to further
 13 1 or more of the purposes described in section 202
 14 or in section 2 of the Healthy Forests Restoration
 15 Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6501), including by—

16 “(A) reducing wildfire risk to a commu-
 17 nity, municipal water supply, or at-risk land;

18 “(B) protecting a watershed;

19 “(C) addressing a threat to forest land or
 20 rangeland health, including catastrophic wild-
 21 fire;

22 “(D) addressing the impact of insect or
 23 disease infestation or any other damaging agent
 24 on forest land, water, or rangeland health; or

1 “(E) conserving, restoring, or enhancing a
2 forest ecosystem or an ecosystem on public, pri-
3 vate, or tribal land—

4 “(i) to improve biological diversity; or
5 “(ii) to enhance—

6 “(I) the productivity of fish and
7 wildlife habitat;

8 “(II) the recovery of a species; or

9 “(III) carbon sequestration.

10 “(10) RESOURCE ASSISTANT.—The term ‘re-
11 source assistant’ means a resource assistant selected
12 under section 206.

13 “(11) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means—

14 “(A) each of the several States of the
15 United States;

16 “(B) the District of Columbia;

17 “(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

18 “(D) the United States Virgin Islands;

19 “(E) Guam;

20 “(F) American Samoa; and

21 “(G) the Commonwealth of the Northern
22 Mariana Islands.

23 “(12) TRIBAL AGENCY.—The term ‘tribal agen-
24 cy’ has the meaning given the term ‘Indian tribe’ in

1 section 101 of the National and Community Service
2 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511).

3 “(13) TRIBAL LAND OR WATER.—The term
4 ‘tribal land or water’ means any real property or
5 water—

6 “(A) owned by a tribal agency;

7 “(B) held in trust by the United States for
8 an Indian or a tribal agency; or

9 “(C) held by an Indian or a tribal agency
10 that is subject to a restriction on alienation im-
11 posed by the United States.

12 “(14) VETERAN.—The term ‘veteran’ has the
13 meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38,
14 United States Code.

15 “(15) YOUTH.—The term ‘youth’ means an in-
16 dividual who is not younger than age 15 and not
17 older than age 30.”.

18 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 623(i)(6)
19 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by striking
20 “any public lands (as defined in section 203 of the Public
21 Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1722))” and insert-
22 ing “any land or water (or interest in land or water)
23 owned or administered by the United States (other than
24 Indian land)”.

1 **SEC. 4. 21ST CENTURY CONSERVATION SERVICE CORPS.**

2 Section 204 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
3 (16 U.S.C. 1723) is amended to read as follows:

4 **“SEC. 204. 21ST CENTURY CONSERVATION SERVICE CORPS.**

5 **“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the
6 21st Century Conservation Service Corps, to be comprised
7 of 21CSC organizations and Corpsmembers, to carry out,
8 in partnership with participating entities, the purposes of
9 this title.

10 **“(b) DESIGNATION OF COORDINATORS.**—The head of
11 each participating entity, and the head of any bureau or
12 subdivision of each participating entity, shall designate a
13 21CSC coordinator to coordinate any activity of the
14 21CSC or a 21CSC project carried out by the partici-
15 pating entity or the bureau or subdivision of the partici-
16 pating entity.

17 **“(c) PARTICIPATING ENTITIES.**—

18 **“(1) IN GENERAL.**—The 21CSC shall be imple-
19 mented jointly by the heads of the participating enti-
20 ties, who may support the 21CSC by carrying out
21 the activities described in paragraph (3).

22 **“(2) LIST OF PARTICIPATING ENTITIES.**—The
23 participating entities shall be—

24 **“(A)** the Department of the Interior;

25 **“(B)** the Department of Agriculture;

26 **“(C)** the Department of Transportation;

- 1 “(D) the Department of Labor;
 2 “(E) the Department of Energy;
 3 “(F) the Department of Defense;
 4 “(G) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
 5 “(H) the Department of Commerce;
 6 “(I) the Department of Education;
 7 “(J) the Department of Housing and
 8 Urban Development;
 9 “(K) the Corporation for National and
 10 Community Service;
 11 “(L) the Office of the Assistant Secretary
 12 of the Army for Civil Works;
 13 “(M) the Federal Emergency Management
 14 Agency; and
 15 “(N) any other Federal agency that noti-
 16 fies the President of the intent of the Federal
 17 agency to participate in and carry out a 21CSC
 18 project.
- 19 “(3) SUPPORT FOR THE 21CSC.—
- 20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of a partici-
 21 pating entity may provide support to the
 22 21CSC by—
- 23 “(i) establishing standards for the
 24 21CSC;

1 “(ii) establishing a process for an or-
2 ganization to apply and be approved to be-
3 come a 21CSC organization;

4 “(iii) developing and supporting a
5 public-private partnership referred to in
6 paragraph (5)(A)(i);

7 “(iv) using or leveraging existing
8 funds, or acquiring funds and other re-
9 sources, under section 210 to support
10 21CSC projects through entering into a co-
11 operative agreement under paragraph
12 (5)(A)(i);

13 “(v) leveraging existing resources de-
14 scribed in section 210(b) to expand the use
15 of the 21CSC to meet the mission of the
16 participating entity;

17 “(vi) using technology to support
18 21CSC projects; and

19 “(vii) collecting performance data on
20 21CSC projects—

21 “(I) to prepare the reports re-
22 ferred to in subparagraph (C)(i)(I);
23 and

24 “(II) to demonstrate the impact
25 of the 21CSC projects.

1 “(B) COORDINATION.—

2 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The heads of each
3 of the participating entities shall, to the
4 maximum extent practicable, coordinate
5 with each other or the head of any other
6 Federal agency that is affected by, or ear-
7 rying out, an activity that is similar to a
8 21CSC project—

9 “(I) to minimize, to the max-
10 imum extent practicable, the duplica-
11 tion of any specific project performed
12 by any other participating entity or
13 Federal agency; and

14 “(II) to maximize 21CSC project
15 completion in a cost-effective manner
16 by collaborating to leverage existing
17 resources described in section 210(b).

18 “(ii) APPROVAL AND DATA COLLEC-
19 TION.—The head of each participating en-
20 tity shall, to the maximum extent prac-
21 ticable, coordinate with each other head of
22 a participating entity—

23 “(I) to approve organizations as
24 21CSC organizations; and

1 “(H) to collect the data referred
2 to in items (aa) through (dd) of sub-
3 paragraph (C)(i)(I).

4 “(iii) GUIDANCE.—The head of each
5 participating entity shall, to the maximum
6 extent practicable, seek guidance from—

7 “(I) the Corporation for National
8 and Community Service;

9 “(II) the Departments of Vet-
10 erans Affairs and Labor on methods
11 to increase the participation of vet-
12 erans in 21CSC projects; and

13 “(III) the Secretary of the Inte-
14 rior, acting through the Assistant Sec-
15 retary for Indian Affairs, on methods
16 to increase the participation of Indi-
17 ans in 21CSC projects.

18 “(C) REPORTING.—

19 “(i) 21CSC REPORTS.—

20 “(I) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—As
21 soon as practicable after the date of
22 enactment of the 21st Century Con-
23 servation Service Corps Act of 2017,
24 the Chief Executive Officer of the
25 Corporation for National and Commu-

1 nity Service, in coordination with the
2 head of each participating entity, shall
3 submit to Congress a report that in-
4 cludes data, for the year covered by
5 the report, including—

6 “(aa) the number of Corps-
7 members that carried out 21CSC
8 projects and the length of the
9 term of service for each Corps-
10 member;

11 “(bb) the total amount of
12 funding provided by participating
13 entities for the service of Corps-
14 members;

15 “(cc) the type of service per-
16 formed by Corpsmembers and the
17 impact and accomplishments of
18 the service; and

19 “(dd) any other similar data
20 determined by the Chief Execu-
21 tive Officer of the Corporation
22 for National and Community
23 Service or the head of a partici-
24 pating entity to be appropriate,
25 including data sufficient to deter-

mine the effectiveness of 21CSC
 organizations in carrying out ac-
 tivities to achieve the purposes of
 this title in a manner that—

“(AA) is cost-effective;

and

“(BB) does not unduly

duplicate or overlap with

any other activity or pro-

gram carried out by any

other Federal agency.

“(H) DATA FROM PARTICIPATING

ENTITIES.—Not later than 1 year

after the date of enactment of the

21st Century Conservation Service

Corps Act of 2017, and annually

thereafter, the head of each partici-

pating entity shall submit to the Chief

Executive Officer of the Corporation

for National and Community Service

the data described in items (aa)

through (dd) of subclause (I).

“(III) DATA COLLECTION.—The

Chief Executive Officer of the Cor-

poration for National and Community

Service may coordinate with individual 21CSC organizations to improve the collection of the required data described in items (aa) through (dd) of subclause (I).

“(ii) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare and submit to Congress—

“(aa) not later than 3 years after the date of submission of the first report under clause (i)(I), an interim report; and

“(bb) not later than 5 years after the date of submission of the first report under that clause, a final report.

“(II) CONTENTS.—The interim and final reports referred to in subclause (I) shall include—

“(aa) an assessment, based on the data described in items (aa) through (dd) of clause (i)(I),

of the effectiveness of 21CSC organizations in achieving the purposes of this title in a manner that—

“(AA) is cost-effective;

and

“(BB) does not unduly

duplicate or overlap with

any other activity or pro-

gram carried out by any

other Federal agency; and

“(bb) recommendations on

how to more effectively manage

and carry out 21CSC projects to

achieve the purposes of this title

in the manner described in item

(aa).

“(III) ADDITIONAL REPORTS.—

The Comptroller General of the

United States may submit to Con-

gress any additional report that in-

cludes the content described in sub-

clause (II), as the Comptroller Gen-

eral determines to be necessary.

1 “(4) GIFTS AND DONATIONS.—The head of a
 2 participating entity may accept, use, or dispose of a
 3 contribution that is a gift or donation of money,
 4 services, or property to support the development, im-
 5 plementation, and expansion of a 21CSC project, in
 6 accordance with applicable law (including regula-
 7 tions).

8 “(5) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH 21CSC
 9 ORGANIZATIONS.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of each par-
 11 ticipating entity may—

12 “(i) develop a public-private partner-
 13 ship with a 21CSC organization by enter-
 14 ing into a cooperative agreement with the
 15 21CSC organization to support and carry
 16 out 21CSC projects; and

17 “(ii) leverage existing resources de-
 18 scribed in section 210(b) to support a co-
 19 operative agreement.

20 “(B) TYPE OF COOPERATIVE AGREE-
 21 MENT.—A cooperative agreement under this
 22 paragraph may—

23 “(i) be limited to an agreement for a
 24 specific 21CSC project;

1 “(ii) be a broad agreement covering
2 multiple planned or future 21CSC projects;
3 or

4 “(iii) be an agreement for a 21CSC
5 project to be part of a broader 21CSC ini-
6 tiative carried out in partnership with—

7 “(I) the Federal Government;

8 “(II) a State government; or

9 “(III) a tribal agency.

10 “(C) SET SHARE.—A cooperative agree-
11 ment under this paragraph shall include a pro-
12 vision specifying the cost share that the 21CSC
13 organization will provide under section 210(c).

14 “(d) 21CSC ORGANIZATIONS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be considered and ap-
16 proved as a 21CSC organization, an organization
17 shall, to the maximum extent practicable, dem-
18 onstrate the ability to meet, and provide assurances
19 that the organization will meet, each requirement
20 described in paragraphs (2) through (6).

21 “(2) 21CSC CORPSMEMBERS ENGAGED BY
22 21CSC ORGANIZATIONS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to meeting
24 the requirement of subparagraph (B), any indi-
25 vidual selected by a 21CSC organization to

1 carry out a 21CSC project shall, to the max-
 2 imum extent practicable, be—

3 “(i) notwithstanding paragraphs (3)
 4 and (4) of section 137(a) of the National
 5 and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
 6 U.S.C. 12591(a)), a youth, in the case of
 7 any Corpsmember participating in a
 8 21CSC project supported and carried out
 9 by the Corporation for National and Com-
 10 munity Service; or

11 “(ii) a veteran not older than age 35.

12 “(B) CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT.—Any
 13 individual selected as a Corpsmember shall be—

14 “(i) a citizen or national of the United
 15 States; or

16 “(ii) a lawful permanent resident of
 17 the United States.

18 “(C) EMPHASIS ON DIVERSITY AND INCLU-
 19 SION.—In selecting a Corpsmember, a 21CSC
 20 organization shall make deliberate outreach ef-
 21 forts to engage an individual who—

22 “(i) lives in the State or region of the
 23 21CSC organization; and

24 “(ii) represents a traditionally under-
 25 served population, including veterans, Indi-

ans, and disadvantaged youth (as defined
in section 101 of the National and Com-
munity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
12511)).

“(3) COMPENSATION FOR PARTICIPANTS.—A
21CSC organization shall provide compensation to
each Corpsmember that includes 1 or more of the
following:

“(A) A wage.

“(B) A stipend.

“(C) A living allowance.

“(D) An educational credit that may be
applied towards a program of postsecondary
education at an institution of higher education
that agrees to award the credit for participation
in a 21CSC project.

“(4) ORGANIZATION OF SERVICE FOR PARTICI-
PANTS.—In carrying out a 21CSC project, a 21CSC
organization shall, to the maximum extent prac-
ticable, organize each Corpsmember as—

“(A) a crew-based participant who—

“(i) serves together with other crew-
based participants; and

1 “(ii) is directly supervised by a
2 trained and experienced crew-based leader
3 or conservation professional; or

4 “(B) an individual or small team-based
5 participant who serves—

6 “(i) individually or in a coordinated
7 small team, as applicable;

8 “(ii) under the direction of a con-
9 servation professional; and

10 “(iii) on an initiative that requires
11 specific skills and dedicated attention.

12 “(5) 21CSC PROJECTS.—A 21CSC organization
13 shall carry out a 21CSC project that includes na-
14 tional service, and may be a priority project, involv-
15 ing—

16 “(A) the conservation, restoration, and en-
17 hancement of—

18 “(i) a unit of the National Park Sys-
19 tem or National Forest System;

20 “(ii) public or tribal land or water; or

21 “(iii) natural, cultural, or historical
22 resources or treasures;

23 “(B) the conservation, restoration, man-
24 agement, and development of the natural re-

1 sources and infrastructure of the United States;
 2 including—

3 “(i) removal of invasive species;

4 “(ii) wildfire prevention and response;

5 “(iii) disaster resiliency, mitigation,
 6 response, and recovery;

7 “(iv) trail development and mainte-
 8 nance;

9 “(v) coastal restoration and resiliency;

10 “(vi) historic preservation;

11 “(vii) public safety;

12 “(viii) energy efficiency and alter-
 13 native energy;

14 “(ix) water infrastructure;

15 “(x) construction, repair, rehabilita-
 16 tion, or maintenance of—

17 “(I) a road;

18 “(II) a campground; or

19 “(III) any other recreation or vis-
 20 itor facility or housing structure; and

21 “(xi) any other related project that
 22 furthers the purposes of this title;

23 “(C) the support, development, and en-
 24 hancement of outdoor recreation or urban green

space, including for the purpose of public access;

“(D) service that is primarily indoors, such as service in a science, policy, or program internship, with a clear benefit for natural, cultural, or historic resources or treasures, which may include the provision of interpretation and education services to—

“(i) the public; or

“(ii) a cooperating association, educational institution, friends group, or similar nonprofit partner organization; and

“(E) notwithstanding section 132A of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12584a), a project described in this paragraph on private land or water in partnership with a private entity if—

“(i) the project has a direct or recognized public or environmental benefit; or

“(ii) the funding for the project originated from a governmental entity, regardless of the end payor.

“(6) 21CSC CORPSMEMBERS.—In carrying out a 21CSC project, a 21CSC organization shall provide each Corpsmember with—

1 “(A) in-demand skills development, certifi-
 2 cation and credentials, and education to prepare
 3 the Corpsmember for success in transitioning to
 4 the 21st century workforce;

5 “(B) community skill development to help
 6 the Corpsmember—

7 “(i) acquire an ethic of service to oth-
 8 ers and the United States; and

9 “(ii) become a more effective natural
 10 resource and community steward; and

11 “(C) a greater understanding of the nat-
 12 ural, cultural, or historic resources or treasures
 13 of the United States.

14 “(e) CORPSMEMBER COMPENSATION AND EMPLOY-
 15 MENT STANDARDS.—

16 “(1) CORPSMEMBER COMPENSATION STAND-
 17 ARD.—

18 “(A) SPECIFIC WAGE RATES.—A form of
 19 compensation provided under subparagraph (A),
 20 (B), or (C) of subsection (d)(3) shall be consid-
 21 ered to be established at a specific wage rate,
 22 in the same manner as the compensation pro-
 23 vided for a living allowance under section 140
 24 of the National and Community Service Act of
 25 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12594).

1 ~~“(B) COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN CORPS-~~
2 ~~MEMBERS.—~~The compensation provided under
3 ~~subsection (d)(3)~~ to a Corpsmember who is not
4 a participant in a 21CSC project supported by
5 the Corporation for National and Community
6 Service shall not be subject to any provision of
7 (including a regulation under) the National and
8 Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
9 ~~12501~~ et seq.) relating to a wage rate, but shall
10 be considered to be established at a specific
11 wage rate, in the manner described in subpara-
12 graph (A).

13 ~~“(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—~~Nothing
14 in subparagraph (A) applies a specific wage
15 rate for a living allowance that is established
16 under section 140 of the National and Commu-
17 nity Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12594) to
18 the compensation of a Corpsmember under sub-
19 section (d)(3).

20 ~~“(2) CORPSMEMBER EMPLOYMENT STAND-~~
21 ~~ARD.—~~

22 ~~“(A) IN GENERAL.—~~Except as provided in
23 subparagraphs (B) and (C), in parity with sec-
24 tion 101(30) of the National and Community
25 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511(30)), a

Corpsmember shall be considered to be a participant (as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511)), not an employee, of the 21CSC organization for which the Corpsmember serves.

“(B) FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), Federal employment provisions shall apply to a Corpsmember to the extent that those provisions apply to a participant or crew leader under section 199M(b) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12655n(b)).

“(C) CHILD LABOR PROVISIONS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A)—

“(i) the child labor provisions under section 12 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 212) (including any order or regulation issued under the authority of such section or section 3(1) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 203(1))) shall apply to a Corpsmember and the 21CSC organization for which the Corpsmember serves in the same manner as such provisions apply

to an employee and an employer under
such Act; and

“(ii) a violation of a section specified
in clause (i) by a 21CSC organization shall
be enforced by the Secretary of Labor in
the same manner, and subject to the same
penalties under the Fair Labor Standards
Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.), as a
violation by an employer of section 12 of
such Act (29 U.S.C. 212).

“(3) CIVIL SERVICE.—An individual may be en-
rolled as a Corpsmember without regard to the civil
service and classification laws, rules, or regula-
tions.”.

**SEC. 5. 21ST CENTURY CONSERVATION SERVICE CORPS
CONSERVATION CENTERS AND PROGRAM
SUPPORT.**

Section 205 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
(16 U.S.C. 1724) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “Secretary” each place it
appears and inserting “head of a participating
entity”; and

(B) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 2 “Public Lands Corps” and inserting
 3 “21CSC”; and

4 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 5 “conservation projects” and inserting
 6 “21CSC projects”;

7 (2) in subsection (b)—

8 (A) in the heading, by inserting “, TEM-
 9 PORARY HOUSING, AND TRANSPORTATION”
 10 after “LOGISTICAL SUPPORT”;

11 (B) in the first sentence—

12 (i) by striking “The Secretary” and
 13 inserting the following:

14 “(1) LOGISTICAL SUPPORT.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of a partici-
 16 pating entity”; and

17 (ii) by striking “the Corps” and in-
 18 serting “the 21CSC”;

19 (C) in the second sentence, by striking
 20 “Logistical support” and inserting the fol-
 21 lowing:

22 “(B) INCLUSIONS.—Logistical support pro-
 23 vided under subparagraph (A)”;

24 (D) by adding at the end the following:

1 ~~“(2) TEMPORARY HOUSING.—~~The head of a
 2 participating entity may make arrangements with
 3 another Federal agency or a State, local govern-
 4 ment, or private organization to provide temporary
 5 housing for Corpsmembers as needed and available.

6 ~~“(3) TRANSPORTATION.—~~The head of a partici-
 7 pating entity may provide transportation to and
 8 from 21CSC project sites for Corpsmembers that re-
 9 side in their own homes.”;

10 ~~(3)~~ in subsection (c)—

11 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
 12 serting “The head of a participating entity”;
 13 and

14 (B) by striking “the Corps for training or
 15 housing Corps participants” and inserting “the
 16 21CSC for training or housing Corpsmembers”;
 17 and

18 ~~(4)~~ in subsection (d), by striking “The Sec-
 19 retary” and inserting “The head of a participating
 20 entity”.

21 **SEC. 6. RESOURCE ASSISTANTS.**

22 Section 206 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
 23 (16 U.S.C. 1725) is amended—

24 ~~(1)~~ in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in the fourth sentence, by striking
2 “~~The Secretary~~” and inserting the following:

3 “(D) PREFERENCE.—The head of a par-
4 ticipating entity”;

5 (B) in the third sentence, by striking “~~The~~
6 ~~Secretary~~” and inserting the following:

7 “(C) SELECTION.—The head of a partici-
8 pating entity”;

9 (C) in the second sentence, by striking “~~To~~
10 ~~be eligible~~” and inserting the following:

11 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible”; and

12 (D) by striking the first sentence and in-
13 serting the following:

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of a partici-
15 pating entity may provide individual placements
16 of resource assistants to carry out research or
17 resource protection activities on behalf of the
18 participating entity.”; and

19 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
20 following:

21 “(b) USE OF 21CSC ORGANIZATIONS.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If the head of a partici-
23 pating entity determines that a 21CSC organization
24 can provide appropriate recruitment and placement
25 services to fulfill the requirements of this section;

1 the head of the participating entity may implement
 2 this section through a 21CSC organization.

3 ~~“(2) CONTRIBUTION TO EXPENSES.—A 21CSC~~
 4 ~~organization providing recruitment and placement~~
 5 ~~services under paragraph (1) shall contribute to the~~
 6 ~~expenses of providing and supporting resource as-~~
 7 ~~sistants, through 1 or more private sources of fund-~~
 8 ~~ing, at a level equal to 25 percent of the total costs~~
 9 ~~of each participant in the resource assistant pro-~~
 10 ~~gram that has been recruited and placed through the~~
 11 ~~21CSC organization.~~

12 ~~“(3) ANNUAL REPORT.—A 21CSC organization~~
 13 ~~providing recruitment and placement services under~~
 14 ~~paragraph (1) shall submit to the head of the appli-~~
 15 ~~cable participating entity an annual report that eval-~~
 16 ~~uates the scope, size, and quality of the resource as-~~
 17 ~~stant program carried out by the 21CSC organiza-~~
 18 ~~tion, including a description of the value of the work~~
 19 ~~contributed by resource assistants to the mission of~~
 20 ~~the participating entity.”.~~

21 **SEC. 7. ELIGIBILITY FOR NONCOMPETITIVE HIRING STA-**
 22 **TUS.**

23 Section 207 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
 24 (16 U.S.C. 1726) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 207. ELIGIBILITY FOR NONCOMPETITIVE HIRING STA-**
 2 **TUS.**

3 “(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

4 “(1) the terms ‘land management agency’ and
 5 ‘time-limited appointment’ have the meanings given
 6 those terms in section 9601 of title 5, United States
 7 Code; and

8 “(2) the term ‘qualified Corpsmember’ means a
 9 Corpsmember who is certified by a corresponding
 10 participating entity as having successfully completed
 11 640 hours of service with a 21CSC organization.

12 “(b) **HIRING.**—

13 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2)
 14 and subsection (c), a qualified Corpsmember shall be
 15 eligible for appointment in the competitive service in
 16 the same manner as a Peace Corps volunteer as pre-
 17 scribed in Executive Order 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504
 18 note; relating to Providing for the Appointment of
 19 Former Peace Corps Volunteers to the Civilian Ca-
 20 reer Services), as amended by Executive Order
 21 12107 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating to the Civil
 22 Service Commission and Labor-Management in the
 23 Federal Service).

24 “(2) **PERIOD.**—A qualified Corpsmember shall
 25 be eligible for an appointment under paragraph (1)
 26 during the 2-year period beginning on the date on

1 which the Corpsmember completes the 640 hours of
 2 service required under subsection (a)(2).

3 ~~“(3) TIME-LIMITED APPOINTMENT.—For pur-~~
 4 ~~poses of section 9602 of title 5, United States Code,~~
 5 ~~a qualified Corpsmember hired by a participating~~
 6 ~~entity that is a land management agency for a time-~~
 7 ~~limited appointment shall be considered to be ap-~~
 8 ~~pointed initially under open, competitive examina-~~
 9 ~~tion.~~

10 ~~“(c) SERVICE HOURS.—~~

11 ~~“(1) IN GENERAL.—The 640 hours of service~~
 12 ~~required under subsection (a)(2) may include service~~
 13 ~~on 1 or more projects carried out by a Corpsmember~~
 14 ~~with 1 or more participating entities during 1 or~~
 15 ~~more terms of service in a 21CSC organization.~~

16 ~~“(2) COMPETITIVE SERVICE.—To be eligible for~~
 17 ~~noncompetitive hiring status under subsection (b), a~~
 18 ~~Corpsmember shall perform the 640 hours of service~~
 19 ~~required under subsection (a)(2)—~~

20 ~~“(A) carrying out a project on public or~~
 21 ~~tribal land or water; or~~

22 ~~“(B) in service with, or on a project sup-~~
 23 ~~ported in whole or in part by, a participating~~
 24 ~~entity.~~

1 “(3) PRIORITIES.—The head of each partici-
 2 pating entity is encouraged, to the maximum extent
 3 practicable, to identify a sufficient number of 21CSC
 4 projects on public or tribal land or water that are
 5 aligned with the priorities of the participating entity
 6 so as to facilitate the attainment of the 640 hours
 7 of service by Corpsmembers required under sub-
 8 section (a)(2).

9 “(4) TRACKING HOURS.—Participating entities
 10 shall coordinate with 21CSC organizations to iden-
 11 tify the most effective and efficient method for
 12 tracking and certifying the 640 hours of service re-
 13 quired under subsection (a)(2).

14 “(d) GUIDANCE.—The head of each participating en-
 15 tity, and any subdivision of a participating entity, shall
 16 coordinate with the head of each other participating enti-
 17 ty, and subdivision of each other participating entity, to
 18 implement and issue guidance on eligibility for non-
 19 competitive hiring status under subsection (b) in a uni-
 20 form manner to—

21 “(1) improve the efficiency and use of non-
 22 competitive hiring authority; and

23 “(2) minimize inconsistency.”.

1 **SEC. 8. NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.**

2 Section 208 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
3 (~~16 U.S.C. 1727~~) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a), in the first sentence—

5 (A) by striking “participant in the Public
6 Lands Corps” and inserting “Corpsmember”;
7 and

8 (B) by striking “the participant” and in-
9 serting “the Corpsmember”; and

10 (2) in subsection (b)—

11 (A) by striking “either participants in the
12 Corps” and inserting “Corpsmembers”; and

13 (B) by striking “such a participant” and
14 inserting “a Corpsmember”.

15 **SEC. 9. NONDISPLACEMENT.**

16 Section 209 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
17 (~~16 U.S.C. 1728~~) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “Public Lands Corps” and in-
19 serting “21CSC”; and

20 (2) by striking “qualified youth or conservation
21 corps” and inserting “Corpsmember or a 21CSC or-
22 ganization”.

23 **SEC. 10. FUNDING.**

24 Section 210 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
25 (~~16 U.S.C. 1729~~) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsections (a) through (c)
2 as subsections (d) through (f), respectively;

3 (2) by inserting before subsection (d) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(a) INVESTMENTS.—

6 ““(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to using the
7 funds described in subsections (b) and (c) to fund
8 21CSC projects, each 21CSC organization shall le-
9 verage those funds by soliciting cash or in-kind con-
10 tributions from public or private sources.

11 “(2) METHODS.—A 21CSC organization may
12 leverage funds by soliciting contributions using inno-
13 vative strategies, such as crowd-funding.

14 “(b) EXISTING RESOURCES.—To fund a 21CSC
15 project, the head of each participating entity shall be lim-
16 ited to using existing funds appropriated or allocated to
17 the participating entity, as of the period of implementation
18 of the 21CSC project, under any law or authority other
19 than this title.

20 “(c) SET COST SHARE.—A 21CSC organization ear-
21 rying out a 21CSC project shall provide a cost share of
22 not less than 10 percent of the total cost of the 21CSC
23 project, which may include cash or in-kind contributions
24 from a State, local, or private source.”;

25 (3) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—

2 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-
3 ing “QUALIFIED YOUTH OR CONSERVATION
4 CORPS” and inserting “CORPSMEMBERS OR
5 21CSC ORGANIZATIONS”; and

6 (ii) by striking the first and second
7 sentences; and

8 (B) in paragraph (2)—

9 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-
10 ing “PUBLIC LANDS CORPS” and inserting
11 “21CSC”;

12 (ii) in the first sentence—

13 (I) by striking “The Secretary is
14 authorized to” and inserting “The
15 head of a participating entity may”;

16 (II) by striking “Public Lands
17 Corps” and inserting “21CSC”; and

18 (III) by striking “the Corps” and
19 inserting “the 21CSC”; and

20 (iii) in the second sentence, by strik-
21 ing “the Corps” and “the 21CSC”;

22 (4) in subsection (e) (as so redesignated), by
23 striking “In order” and all that follows through “the
24 Secretary” and inserting “To carry out the 21CSC
25 or to support resource assistants and Corpsmembers

1 or 21CSC organizations under this title; the head of
 2 a participating entity”; and

3 ~~(5) in subsection (f) (as so redesignated)—~~

4 ~~(A) by striking “section 211” and insert-~~
 5 ~~ing “section 213”; and~~

6 ~~(B) by striking “Public Lands Corps” and~~
 7 ~~inserting “21CSC”.~~

8 **SEC. 11. INDIAN YOUTH 21ST CENTURY CONSERVATION**
 9 **SERVICE CORPS; RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

10 The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C.
 11 1721 et seq.) is amended—

12 ~~(1) by redesignating section 211 as section 213;~~
 13 ~~and~~

14 ~~(2) by inserting after section 210 the following:~~

15 **“SEC. 211. INDIAN YOUTH 21ST CENTURY CONSERVATION**
 16 **SERVICE CORPS.**

17 ~~“(a) AUTHORIZATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREE-~~
 18 ~~MENTS.—The head of a participating entity may offer to~~
 19 ~~enter into a cooperative agreement with a tribal agency~~
 20 ~~or a 21CSC organization to establish and administer the~~
 21 ~~Indian Youth 21st Century Conservation Service Corps,~~
 22 ~~which shall carry out 1 or more 21CSC projects on tribal~~
 23 ~~land or water.~~

24 ~~“(b) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 18 months after~~
 25 ~~the date of enactment of the 21st Century Conservation~~

1 Service Corps Act of 2017, the Secretary of the Interior,
 2 in consultation with Indian tribes, shall issue guidelines
 3 for the management of the Indian Youth 21st Century
 4 Conservation Service Corps, in accordance with this Act
 5 and any other applicable Federal laws.

6 **“SEC. 212. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

7 “Except as provided in section 204(d)(2)(A)(i), the
 8 requirements and authorities provided under this title with
 9 respect to Corpsmembers, 21CSC organizations, and par-
 10 ticipating entities with respect to a 21CSC project shall
 11 be in addition to any requirement or authority provided
 12 under other Federal law with respect to Corpsmembers,
 13 21CSC organizations, and participating entities with re-
 14 spect to the 21CSC project.”.

15 **SEC. 12. DIRECT HIRE AUTHORITY.**

16 Section 121(a) of the Department of the Interior, En-
 17 vironment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,
 18 2012 (16 U.S.C. 1725a(a)), is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (1)—

20 (A) by striking “Secretary of the Interior”
 21 and inserting “head of a participating entity (as
 22 defined in section 203 of the Public Lands
 23 Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1722)) (referred
 24 to in this subsection as a ‘participating enti-
 25 ty’)”; and

1 (B) by striking “in paragraph (1) directly
 2 to a position with a land managing agency of
 3 the Department of the Interior” and inserting
 4 “in paragraph (2) directly to a position with a
 5 participating entity”; and
 6 (2) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “land man-
 7 aging agency, such as the National Park Service
 8 Business Plan Internship” and inserting “partici-
 9 pating entity”.

10 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

11 *This Act may be cited as the “21st Century Conserva-*
 12 *tion Service Corps Act”.*

13 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

14 *Section 203 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993*
 15 *(16 U.S.C. 1722) is amended—*

16 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “under section
 17 204” and inserting “by section 204(a)(1)”;

18 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (8) through (13)
 19 as paragraphs (9) through (14), respectively;

20 (3) by inserting after paragraph (7) the fol-
 21 lowing:

22 “(8) *INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.*—

23 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The term ‘institution of*
 24 *higher education’ has the meaning given the*

term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

“(B) *EXCLUSION.*—The term ‘institution of higher education’ does not include—

“(i) an institution described in section 101(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(b)); or

“(ii) an institution outside the United States, as described in section 102(a)(1)(C) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)(1)(C)).”;

(4) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “, as follows” and inserting “and other conservation and restoration initiatives, as follows”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) To protect, restore, or enhance marine, estuarine, riverine, and coastal habitat ecosystem components—

“(i) to promote the recovery of threatened species, endangered species, and managed fisheries;

1 “(ii) to restore fisheries, protected re-
 2 sources, and habitats impacted by oil and
 3 chemical spills and natural disasters; or

4 “(iii) to enhance the resilience of coast-
 5 al ecosystems, communities, and economies
 6 through habitat conservation.”;

7 (5) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (11) (as
 8 so redesignated), by striking “individuals between the
 9 ages of 16 and 30, inclusive,” and inserting “individ-
 10 uals between the ages of 16 and 30, inclusive, or vet-
 11 erans age 35 or younger”;

12 (6) in paragraph (13) (as so redesignated)—

13 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and”
 14 at the end;

15 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
 16 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

17 (C) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(C) with respect to the National Marine
 19 Sanctuary System, coral reefs, and other coastal,
 20 estuarine, and marine habitats, and other land
 21 and facilities administered by the National Oce-
 22 anic and Atmospheric Administration, the Sec-
 23 retary of Commerce.”; and

24 (7) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(15) *VETERAN*.—The term ‘veteran’ has the
2 meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38,
3 *United States Code*.”.

4 **SEC. 3. PUBLIC LANDS CORPS PROGRAM.**

5 Section 204 of the *Public Lands Corps Act of 1993*
6 (16 U.S.C. 1723) is amended—

7 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
8 following:

9 “(a) *ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS CORPS*.—

10 “(1) *IN GENERAL*.—There is established in the
11 Department of the Interior, the Department of Agri-
12 culture, and the Department of Commerce a corps, to
13 be known as the ‘Public Lands Corps’.

14 “(2) *NO EFFECT ON OTHER AGENCIES*.—Nothing
15 in this subsection precludes the establishment of a
16 public lands corps by the head of a Federal depart-
17 ment or agency other than a department described in
18 paragraph (1), in accordance with this Act.”; and

19 (2) in subsection (b)—

20 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “indi-
21 viduals between the ages of 16 and 30, inclu-
22 sive,” and inserting “individuals between the
23 ages of 16 and 30, inclusive, and veterans age 35
24 or younger”; and

1 (B) in the second sentence, by striking “sec-
 2 tion 137(b) of the National and Community
 3 Service Act of 1990” and inserting “paragraphs
 4 (1), (2), (4), and (5) of section 137(a) of the Na-
 5 tional and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
 6 U.S.C. 12591(a))”.

7 **SEC. 4. TRANSPORTATION.**

8 Section 205 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
 9 (16 U.S.C. 1724) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 10 lowing:

11 “(e) *TRANSPORTATION.*—The Secretary may provide
 12 to Corps participants who reside in their own homes trans-
 13 portation to and from appropriate conservation project
 14 sites.”.

15 **SEC. 5. RESOURCE ASSISTANTS.**

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 206(a) of the Public Lands
 17 Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1725(a)) is amended by strik-
 18 ing the first sentence and inserting the following: “The Sec-
 19 retary may provide individual placements of resource as-
 20 sistants to carry out research or resource protection activi-
 21 ties on behalf of the Secretary.”.

22 (b) *DIRECT HIRE AUTHORITY.*—Section 121(a) of the
 23 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related
 24 Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012 (16 U.S.C. 1725a), is
 25 amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)—

2 (A) by striking “Secretary of the Interior”
3 and inserting “Secretary (as defined in section
4 203 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16
5 U.S.C. 1722))”;

6 (B) by striking “paragraph (1)” and insert-
7 ing “paragraph (2)”; and

8 (C) by striking “with a land managing
9 agency of the Department of the Interior”; and

10 (2) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “with a
11 land managing agency” and inserting “with the Sec-
12 retary (as so defined)”.

13 **SEC. 6. COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS.**

14 Section 207 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
15 (16 U.S.C. 1726) is amended—

16 (1) by striking the section heading and inserting
17 “**COMPENSATION AND TERMS OF SERVICE**”;

18 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as
19 subsections (c) and (d), respectively;

20 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(b) **EDUCATIONAL CREDIT.**—The Secretary may pro-
23 vide a Corps participant with an educational credit that
24 may be applied towards a program of postsecondary edu-

1 cation at an institution of higher education that agrees to
 2 award the credit for participation in the Corps.”;

3 (4) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated)—

4 (A) by striking “Each participant” and in-
 5 serting the following:

6 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Each participant”; and

7 (B) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(2) *INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.*—With re-
 9 spect to the Indian Youth Service Corps established
 10 under section 210, the Secretary shall establish the
 11 term of service of participants in consultation with
 12 the affected Indian tribe.”;

13 (5) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated)—

14 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and
 15 (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively,
 16 and indenting the subparagraphs appropriately;

17 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph
 18 (A) (as so redesignated), by striking “The Sec-
 19 retary” and inserting the following:

20 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary”; and

21 (C) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(2) *TIME-LIMITED APPOINTMENT.*—For pur-
 23 poses of section 9602 of title 5, United States Code,
 24 a former member of the Corps hired by the Secretary
 25 under paragraph (1)(B) for a time-limited appoint-

1 *ment shall be considered to be appointed initially*
 2 *under open, competitive examination.”; and*

3 *(6) by adding at the end the following:*

4 *“(e) APPLICABILITY TO QUALIFIED YOUTH OR CON-*
 5 *SERVATION CORPS.—The hiring and compensation stand-*
 6 *ards described in this section shall apply to any individual*
 7 *participating in an appropriate conservation project*
 8 *through a qualified youth or conservation corps, including*
 9 *an individual placed through a contract or cooperative*
 10 *agreement, as approved by the Secretary.”.*

11 **SEC. 7. REPORTING AND DATA COLLECTION.**

12 *Title II of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16*
 13 *U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) is amended—*

14 *(1) by redesignating sections 209 through 211 as*
 15 *sections 211 through 213, respectively;*

16 *(2) by inserting after section 208 the following:*

17 **“SEC. 209. REPORTING AND DATA COLLECTION.**

18 *“(a) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date*
 19 *of enactment of the 21st Century Conservation Service*
 20 *Corps Act, and annually thereafter, the Chief Executive Of-*
 21 *ficer of the Corporation for National and Community Serv-*
 22 *ice, in coordination with the Secretaries, shall submit to*
 23 *Congress a report that includes data on the Corps, includ-*
 24 *ing—*

1 “(1) *the number of participants enrolled in the*
2 *Corps and the length of the term of service for each*
3 *participant;*

4 “(2) *the projects carried out by Corps partici-*
5 *pants, categorized by type of project and Federal*
6 *agency;*

7 “(3) *the total amount and sources of funding*
8 *provided for the service of participants;*

9 “(4) *the type of service performed by partici-*
10 *pants and the impact and accomplishments of the*
11 *service; and*

12 “(5) *any other similar data determined to be ap-*
13 *propriate by the Chief Executive Officer of the Cor-*
14 *poration for National and Community Service or the*
15 *Secretaries.*

16 “(b) *DATA.—Not later than 1 year after the date of*
17 *enactment of the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps*
18 *Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretaries shall submit*
19 *to the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for Na-*
20 *tional and Community Service the data described in sub-*
21 *section (a).*

22 “(c) *DATA COLLECTION.—The Chief Executive Officer*
23 *of the Corporation for National and Community Service*
24 *may coordinate with qualified youth or conservation corps*

1 *to improve the collection of the required data described in*
 2 *subsection (a).*

3 “(d) *COORDINATION.*—

4 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretaries shall, to the*
 5 *maximum extent practicable, coordinate with each*
 6 *other to carry out activities authorized under this*
 7 *Act, including—*

8 “(A) *the data collection and reporting re-*
 9 *quirements of this section; and*

10 “(B) *implementing and issuing guidance on*
 11 *eligibility for noncompetitive hiring status under*
 12 *section 207(d).*

13 “(2) *DESIGNATION OF COORDINATORS.*—*The Sec-*
 14 *retary shall designate a coordinator to coordinate and*
 15 *serve as the primary point of contact for any activity*
 16 *of the Corps carried out by the Secretary.”; and*

17 *(3) in subsection (c) of section 212 (as so redesign-*
 18 *ated), by striking “211” and inserting “213”.*

19 **SEC. 8. INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.**

20 *Title II of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16*
 21 *U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) (as amended by section 7) is amended*
 22 *by inserting after section 209 the following:*

1 **“SEC. 210. INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.**

2 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*There is established within the*
 3 *Public Lands Corps a program to be known as the ‘Indian*
 4 *Youth Service Corps’ that—*

5 “(1) *enrolls participants between the ages of 16*
 6 *and 30, inclusive, and veterans age 35 or younger, a*
 7 *majority of whom are Indians;*

8 “(2) *is established pursuant to an agreement be-*
 9 *tween an Indian tribe and a qualified youth or con-*
 10 *servation corps for the benefit of the members of the*
 11 *Indian tribe; and*

12 “(3) *carries out appropriate conservation*
 13 *projects on eligible service land.*

14 “(b) *AUTHORIZATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREE-*
 15 *MENTS.*—*The Secretary may enter into cooperative agree-*
 16 *ments with Indian tribes and qualified youth or conserva-*
 17 *tion corps for the establishment and administration of the*
 18 *Indian Youth Service Corps.*

19 “(c) *GUIDELINES.*—*Not later than 18 months after the*
 20 *date of enactment of the 21st Century Conservation Service*
 21 *Corps Act, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation*
 22 *with Indian tribes, shall issue guidelines for the manage-*
 23 *ment of the Indian Youth Service Corps, in accordance with*
 24 *this Act and any other applicable Federal laws.”.*

Calendar No. 711

115TH CONGRESS
2D Session
S. 1403

A BILL

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to establish the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps to place youth and veterans in national service positions to conserve, restore, and enhance the great outdoors of the United States, and for other purposes.

DECEMBER 4, 2018
Reported with an amendment