

## Calendar No. 375

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 1602

[Report No. 115–227]

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

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### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 20, 2017

Mrs. GILLIBRAND introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

APRIL 11, 2018

Reported by Ms. MURKOWSKI, without amendment

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## A BILL

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

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Finger Lakes National  
3 Heritage Area Study Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5       In this Act:

6           (1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage  
7 Area” means the Finger Lakes National Heritage  
8 Area.

9           (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means  
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

11           (3) **STATE.**—The term “State” means the State  
12 of New York.

13           (4) **STUDY AREA.**—The term “study area”  
14 means—

15                   (A) the counties in the State of Cayuga,  
16 Chemung, Cortland, Livingston, Monroe, Onon-  
17 daga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben,  
18 Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, and Yates; and

19                   (B) any other areas in the State that—  
20                       (i) have heritage aspects that are  
21 similar to the areas described in subpara-  
22 graph (A); and

23                       (ii) are adjacent to, or in the vicinity  
24 of, those areas.

1 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation  
 3 with State and local historic preservation officers, State  
 4 and local historical societies, State and local tourism of-  
 5 fices, and other appropriate organizations and govern-  
 6 mental agencies, shall conduct a study to assess the suit-  
 7 ability and feasibility of designating the study area as a  
 8 National Heritage Area, to be known as the “Finger  
 9 Lakes National Heritage Area”.

10 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-  
 11 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether the  
 12 study area—

13 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and  
 14 cultural resources that—

15 (A) represent distinctive aspects of the her-  
 16 itage of the United States;

17 (B) are worthy of recognition, conserva-  
 18 tion, interpretation, and continuing use; and

19 (C) would be best managed—

20 (i) through partnerships among public  
 21 and private entities; and

22 (ii) by linking diverse and sometimes  
 23 noncontiguous resources and active com-  
 24 munities;

1           (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and  
2       folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the  
3       United States;

4           (3) provides outstanding opportunities—

5                (A) to conserve natural, historic, cultural,  
6       or scenic features; and

7                (B) for recreation and education;

8           (4) contains resources that—

9                (A) are important to any identified themes  
10      of the study area; and

11               (B) retain a degree of integrity capable of  
12      supporting interpretation;

13           (5) includes residents, business interests, non-  
14      profit organizations, and State and local govern-  
15      ments that—

16                (A) are involved in the planning of the  
17      Heritage Area;

18                (B) have developed a conceptual financial  
19      plan that outlines the roles of all participants in  
20      the Heritage Area, including the Federal Gov-  
21      ernment; and

22                (C) have demonstrated support for the des-  
23      ignation of the Heritage Area;

24           (6) has a potential management entity to work  
25      in partnership with the individuals and entities de-

1       scribed in paragraph (5) to develop the Heritage  
2       Area while encouraging State and local economic ac-  
3       tivity; and

4               (7) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-  
5       ported by the public.

6   **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

7       Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds  
8       are first made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-  
9       retary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Re-  
10      sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-  
11      mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate  
12      a report that describes—

13               (1) the findings of the study under section 3;  
14      and

15               (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the  
16      Secretary.

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