

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1459

To establish Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park in the State of South Carolina, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 28, 2017

Mr. SCOTT (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park in the State of South Carolina, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fort Sumter and Fort
5 Moultrie National Park Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) Fort Sumter National Monument was es-
9 tablished by the Joint Resolution entitled “Joint
10 Resolution to establish the Fort Sumter National

1 Monument in the State of South Carolina”, ap-
2 proved April 28, 1948 (16 U.S.C. 450ee), to com-
3 memorate historic events in the vicinity of Fort
4 Sumter, the site of the first engagement of the Civil
5 War on April 12, 1861;

6 (2) Fort Moultrie—

7 (A) was the site of the first defeat of the
8 British in the Revolutionary War on June 28,
9 1776; and

10 (B) was acquired by the Federal Govern-
11 ment from the State of South Carolina in 1960
12 under the authority of chapter 3201 of title 54,
13 United States Code;

14 (3) since 1960, Fort Moultrie has been admin-
15 istered by the National Park Service as part of the
16 Fort Sumter National Monument without a clear
17 management mandate or established boundary;

18 (4) Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie played im-
19 portant roles in the protection of Charleston Harbor
20 and in the coastal defense system of the United
21 States;

22 (5) Fort Moultrie is the only site in the Na-
23 tional Park System that preserves the history of the
24 United States coastal defense system during the pe-
25 riod from 1776 through 1947; and

(6) Sullivan’s Island Life Saving Station, located adjacent to the Charleston Light—

(A) was constructed in 1896; and

(B) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term “map” means the map entitled “Boundary Map, Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park”, numbered 392/80,088, and dated November 30, 2009.

(2) PARK.—The term “Park” means the Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park established by section 4(a).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of South Carolina.

(5) SULLIVAN’S ISLAND LIFE SAVING STATION HISTORIC DISTRICT.—The term “Sullivan’s Island Life Saving Station Historic District” means the Charleston Lighthouse, the boathouse, garage, bunker/sighting station, signal tower, and any associated land and improvements to the land that are located

1 between Sullivan’s Island Life Saving Station and
2 the mean low water mark.

3 **SEC. 4. FORT SUMTER AND FORT MOULTRIE NATIONAL**
4 **PARK.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Fort
6 Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park in the State as
7 a unit of the National Park System to preserve, maintain,
8 and interpret the nationally significant historical values
9 and cultural resources associated with Fort Sumter, Fort
10 Moultrie, and the Sullivan’s Island Life Saving Station
11 Historic District.

12 (b) BOUNDARY.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The boundary of the Park
14 shall be comprised of the land, water, and sub-
15 merged land depicted on the map.

16 (2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be
17 on file and available for public inspection in the ap-
18 propriate offices of the National Park Service.

19 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
21 through the Director of the National Park Service,
22 shall administer the Park in accordance with this
23 Act and the laws generally applicable to units of the
24 National Park System, including—

1 (A) section 100101(a), chapter 1003, and
2 sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753, and
3 102101 of title 54, United States Code; and

4 (B) chapter 3201 of title 54, United States
5 Code.

6 (2) INTERPRETATION OF HISTORICAL
7 EVENTS.—The Secretary shall provide for the inter-
8 pretation of historical events and activities that oc-
9 curred in the vicinity of Fort Sumter and Fort
10 Moultrie, including—

11 (A) the Battle of Sullivan’s Island on June
12 28, 1776;

13 (B) the Siege of Charleston during 1780;

14 (C) the Civil War, including—

15 (i) the bombardment of Fort Sumter
16 by Confederate forces on April 12, 1861;
17 and

18 (ii) any other events of the Civil War
19 that are associated with Fort Sumter and
20 Fort Moultrie;

21 (D) the development of the coastal defense
22 system of the United States during the period
23 from the Revolutionary War to World War II,
24 including—

1 (i) the Sullivan’s Island Life Saving
2 Station;

3 (ii) the lighthouse associated with the
4 Sullivan’s Island Life Saving Station; and

5 (iii) the coastal defense sites con-
6 structed during the period of fortification
7 construction from 1898 to 1942, known as
8 the “Endicott Period”; and

9 (E) the lives of—

10 (i) the free and enslaved workers who
11 built and maintained Fort Sumter and
12 Fort Moultrie;

13 (ii) the soldiers who defended the
14 forts;

15 (iii) the prisoners held at the forts;
16 and

17 (iv) captive Africans bound for slavery
18 who, after first landing in the United
19 States, were brought to quarantine houses
20 in the vicinity of Fort Moultrie in the 18th
21 century, if the Secretary determines that
22 the quarantine houses and associated his-
23 torical values are nationally significant.

1 (d) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary
2 may enter into cooperative agreements with public and
3 private entities and individuals to carry out this Act.

4 **SEC. 5. REPEAL OF EXISTING LAW.**

5 Section 2 of the Joint Resolution entitled “Joint Res-
6 olution to establish the Fort Sumter National Monument
7 in the State of South Carolina”, approved April 28, 1948
8 (16 U.S.C. 450ee–1), is repealed.

