

## Calendar No. 286

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 723**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 12, 2013

Received

DECEMBER 20, 2013

Read twice and placed on the calendar

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**AN ACT**

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Beaver, Chipuxet, Queen, Wood, and Pawcatuck Rivers in the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 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 “Wood-Pawcatuck Wa-  
5 tershed Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. BEAVER, CHIPUXET, QUEEN, WOOD, AND**  
2 **PAWCATUCK RIVERS STUDY.**

3 (a) DESIGNATION FOR STUDY.—Section 5(a) of the  
4 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amend-  
5 ed by adding at the end the following:

6 “(\_\_\_\_) BEAVER, CHIPUXET, QUEEN, WOOD,  
7 AND PAWCATUCK RIVERS, RHODE ISLAND AND CON-  
8 NECTICUT.—The approximately 10-mile segment of  
9 the Beaver River from its headwaters in Exeter,  
10 Rhode Island, to its confluence with the Pawcatuck  
11 River; the approximately 5-mile segment of the  
12 Chipuxet River from Hundred Acre Pond to its out-  
13 let into Worden Pond; the approximately 10-mile  
14 segment of the upper Queen River from its head-  
15 waters to the Usquepaugh Dam in South Kingstown,  
16 Rhode Island, and including all its tributaries; the  
17 approximately 5-mile segment of the lower Queen  
18 (Usquepaugh) River from the Usquepaugh Dam to  
19 its confluence with the Pawcatuck River; the ap-  
20 proximately 11-mile segment of the upper Wood  
21 River from its headwaters to Skunk Hill Road in  
22 Richmond and Hopkinton, Rhode Island, and includ-  
23 ing all its tributaries; the approximately 10-mile seg-  
24 ment of the lower Wood River from Skunk Hill  
25 Road to its confluence with the Pawcatuck River;  
26 the approximately 28-mile segment of the Pawcatuck

1 River from Worden Pond to Nooseneck Hill Road  
2 (RI Rte 3) in Hopkinton and Westerly, Rhode Is-  
3 land; and the approximately 7-mile segment of the  
4 lower Pawcatuck River from Nooseneck Hill Road to  
5 Pawcatuck Rock, Stonington, Connecticut, and  
6 Westerly, Rhode Island.”.

7 (b) STUDY AND REPORT.—Section 5(b) of the Wild  
8 and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended  
9 by adding at the end the following:

10 “(\_\_\_\_) BEAVER, CHIPUXET, QUEEN, WOOD,  
11 AND PAWCATUCK RIVERS, RHODE ISLAND AND CON-  
12 NECTICUT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on  
13 which funds are made available to carry out this  
14 paragraph, the Secretary of the Interior shall—

15 “(A) complete the study of the Beaver,  
16 Chipuxet, Queen, Wood, and Pawcatuck Rivers,  
17 Rhode Island and Connecticut, described in  
18 subsection (a)(\_\_\_\_);

19 “(B) submit a report describing the results  
20 of that study to the appropriate committees of  
21 Congress;

22 “(C) include in the report under subpara-  
23 graph (B) the effect of the designation under  
24 this Act on—

1           “(i) existing commercial and rec-  
2           reational activities, such as hunting, fish-  
3           ing, trapping, recreational shooting, motor  
4           boat use, or bridge construction;

5           “(ii) the authorization, construction,  
6           operation, maintenance, or improvement of  
7           energy production and transmission infra-  
8           structure; and

9           “(iii) the authority of State and local  
10          governments to manage those activities en-  
11          compassed in clauses (i) and (ii); and

12          “(D) identify—

13               “(i) all authorities that will authorize  
14               or require the Secretary to influence local  
15               land use decisions (such as zoning) or  
16               place restrictions on non-Federal land if  
17               the area studied is designated under this  
18               paragraph;

19               “(ii) all authorities that the Secretary  
20               may use to condemn property if the area  
21               studied is designated under this para-  
22               graph; and



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