

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5571

To establish the Monterey Bay National Heritage Area in the State of California, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 12, 2021

Mr. PANETTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Monterey Bay National Heritage Area in the State of California, 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 “Monterey Bay National
5 Heritage Area Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage
9 Area” means the Monterey Bay National Heritage
10 Area.

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

3 (3) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
4 of California.

5 (4) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
6 means the Counties of Monterey, San Benito, and
7 Santa Cruz in the State of California.

8 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
10 with State and local historic preservation officers, State
11 and local historical societies, State and local tourism of-
12 fices, local Tribal organizations, and other appropriate or-
13 ganizations and governmental agencies, shall conduct a
14 study to assess the suitability and feasibility of desig-
15 nating the study area as a National Heritage Area, to be
16 known as the “Monterey Bay National Heritage Area”.

17 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-
18 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether the
19 study area—

20 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
21 cultural resources that—

22 (A) represent distinctive aspects of the her-
23 itage of the United States;

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

1 (C) would be best managed—

2 (i) through partnerships among public
3 and private entities; and

4 (ii) by linking diverse and sometimes
5 noncontiguous resources and active com-
6 munities;

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

10 (3) provides outstanding opportunities—

11 (A) to conserve natural, historic, cultural,
12 or scenic features; and

13 (B) for recreation and education;

14 (4) contains resources that—

15 (A) are important to any identified themes
16 of the study area; and

17 (B) retain a degree of integrity capable of
18 supporting interpretation;

19 (5) includes residents, business interests, non-
20 profit organizations, and State and local govern-
21 ments that—

22 (A) are involved in the planning of the
23 Heritage Area;

24 (B) have developed a conceptual financial
25 plan that outlines the roles of all participants in

1 the Heritage Area, including the Federal Gov-
2 ernment; and

3 (C) have demonstrated support for the des-
4 ignation of the Heritage Area;

5 (6) has a potential management entity to work
6 in partnership with the individuals and entities de-
7 scribed in paragraph (5) to develop the Heritage
8 Area while encouraging State and local economic ac-
9 tivity;

10 (7) could impact the rights of private property
11 owners with respect to private property; and

12 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
13 ported by the public.

14 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

15 Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds
16 are first made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-
17 retary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Nat-
18 ural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Nat-
19 ural Resources of the House of Representatives a report
20 that describes—

21 (1) the findings of the study under section 3;
22 and

23 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
24 Secretary.

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