

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1802

To require a study of the feasibility of establishing the United States Civil Rights Trail System, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 20, 2009

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

A BILL

To require a study of the feasibility of establishing the United States Civil Rights Trail 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 “United States Civil
5 Rights Trail Special Resource Study Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY REGARDING PROPOSED**
7 **UNITED STATES CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL.**

8 (a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of the Inte-
9 rior shall conduct a special resource study for the purpose
10 of evaluating a range of alternatives for protecting and

1 interpreting sites associated with the struggle for civil
2 rights in the United States, including alternatives for po-
3 tential addition of some or all of the sites to the National
4 Trails System.

5 (b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall conduct
6 the special resource study in consultation with appropriate
7 Federal, State, county, and local governmental entities.

8 (c) STUDY REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall
9 conduct the study required under subsection (a) in accord-
10 ance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C.
11 1a–5(c)) and section 5(b) of the National Trails System
12 Act (16 U.S.C. 1244(b)), as appropriate.

13 (d) STUDY OBJECTIVES.—In conducting the special
14 resource study, the Secretary shall evaluate alternatives
15 for achieving the following objectives:

16 (1) Identifying the resources and historic
17 themes associated with the movement to secure ra-
18 cial equality in the United States for African-Ameri-
19 cans that, focusing on the period from 1954 through
20 1968, challenged the practice of racial segregation in
21 the Nation and achieved equal rights for all Amer-
22 ican citizens.

23 (2) Making a review of existing studies and re-
24 ports, such as the Civil Rights Framework Study, to
25 complement and not duplicate other studies of the

1 historical importance of the civil rights movements
2 that may be underway or undertaken.

3 (3) Establishing connections with agencies, or-
4 ganizations, and partnerships already engaged in the
5 preservation and interpretation of various trails and
6 sites dealing with the civil rights movement.

7 (4) Protecting historically significant land-
8 scapes, districts, sites, and structures.

9 (5) Identifying alternatives for preservation and
10 interpretation of the sites by the National Park
11 Service, other Federal, State, or local governmental
12 entities, or private and nonprofit organizations, in-
13 cluding the potential inclusion of some or all of the
14 sites in a National Civil Rights Trail.

15 (6) Identifying cost estimates for any necessary
16 acquisition, development, interpretation, operation,
17 and maintenance associated with the alternatives de-
18 veloped under the special resource study.

19 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date
20 on which funds are made available to carry out this sec-
21 tion, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Nat-
22 ural Resources of the House of Representatives and the
23 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
24 ate a report containing the results of the study conducted

- 1 under subsection (c) and any recommendations of the Sec-
- 2 retary with respect to the route.

○