

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2455

To establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

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

A BILL

To establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, 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 “National Historic Vehi-
5 cle Register Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL HISTORIC VEHICLE REGISTER.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) REGISTER.—The term “Register” means
2 the National Historic Vehicle Register established
3 under subsection (b)(1).

4 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
5 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
6 rector of the National Park Service.

7 (3) VEHICLE.—The term “vehicle” includes—

8 (A) a commercial or noncommercial vehi-
9 cle;

10 (B) a motorcycle; and

11 (C) a truck.

12 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
14 and maintain a register of historic vehicles, to be
15 known as the “National Historic Vehicle Register”,
16 which shall include, with respect to each vehicle on
17 the Register—

18 (A) a narrative describing the historic vehi-
19 cle and the historical significance of that vehi-
20 cle;

21 (B) a photographic record of the historic
22 vehicle; and

23 (C) a line drawing or engineering drawing
24 of the historic vehicle, as applicable.

1 (2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall co-
2 ordinate with the Historic Vehicle Association, the
3 American Motorcycle Heritage Foundation, and
4 other appropriate organizations, as determined by
5 the Secretary, to invite individual, institutional, and
6 other owners of historic vehicles to participate in the
7 Register.

8 (3) LOCATION.—The Register shall be archived
9 in the Library of Congress.

10 (c) CRITERIA FOR HISTORIC VEHICLES.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop
12 criteria for the inclusion of historic vehicles on the
13 Register, in accordance with paragraph (2).

14 (2) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In devel-
15 oping criteria under this subsection, the Secretary
16 shall take into consideration the following factors, as
17 applied to a vehicle:

18 (A) ASSOCIATIVE VALUE.—

19 (i) EVENTS.—A vehicle associated
20 with an event that is important in auto-
21 motive or United States history.

22 (ii) INDIVIDUALS.—A vehicle associ-
23 ated with the life of an individual who is
24 significant in automotive or United States
25 history.

1 (B) DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION VALUE.—

2 A vehicle that is distinctive based on—

3 (i) design;

4 (ii) engineering;

5 (iii) craftsmanship; or

6 (iv) aesthetic value.

7 (C) INFORMATIONAL VALUE.—A vehicle of
8 a particular type that—

9 (i) was the first or last produced of
10 that type; or

11 (ii) is among the most well-preserved
12 or authentically restored examples of that
13 type.

14 (d) CONTRACTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

15 In carrying out this section, the Secretary may enter into
16 contracts or cooperative agreements with the Federal Gov-
17 ernment, State governments, units of local government,
18 public or private agencies, organizations, associations, in-
19 stitutions, corporations, other entities, or individuals for
20 the purpose of sharing costs or services in carrying out
21 authorized activities of the Secretary in administering the
22 Register.

23 (e) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this section—

1 (1) supersedes any Federal, State, or local envi-
2 ronmental or air quality standard relating to the op-
3 eration of a motor vehicle or a historic vehicle;

4 (2) violates the privacy of the owner of any his-
5 toric vehicle; or

6 (3) requires that a historic vehicle be docu-
7 mented without the consent of the owner.

8 (f) NO NEW APPROPRIATIONS.—No new appropria-
9 tions shall be authorized to carry out this section.

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