

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4599

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the Gateway Arch Park Foundation to host private events in Gateway Arch National Park buildings, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 20, 2024

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

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the Gateway Arch Park Foundation to host private events in Gateway Arch National Park buildings, 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 “Gateway Partnership
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation”
2 means the Gateway Arch Park Foundation, a non-
3 profit organization that serves as the official philan-
4 thropic partner of the Park.

5 (2) PARK.—The term “Park” means Gateway
6 Arch National Park.

7 (3) PARK BUILDING.—The term “Park build-
8 ing” means—

9 (A) the Arch Visitor Center;

10 (B) the Old Courthouse; and

11 (C) any other building administered or
12 managed by the Secretary as part of the Park
13 that is open to the public.

14 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of the Interior.

16 **SEC. 3. GATEWAY ARCH NATIONAL PARK AGREEMENT.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in accordance with
18 subsection (b), may enter into an agreement with the
19 Foundation to host private events at the Park, which may
20 include the use of Park buildings.

21 (b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—An agreement en-
22 tered into under subsection (a) shall include terms and
23 conditions to protect the resources and values of the Park,
24 including—

1 (1) dates and times during which the Founda-
2 tion may be the exclusive organization that holds a
3 special event in specified Park buildings;

4 (2)(A) the maximum number of events that can
5 be held per week; and

6 (B) appropriate National Park Service staffing
7 for the events;

8 (3) liability insurance in an amount sufficient
9 to protect the interests of the United States that
10 lists the United States as additionally insured;

11 (4) a provision stating that the Federal Govern-
12 ment and agents and employees of the Federal Gov-
13 ernment will not be held liable for claims for dam-
14 ages or suits for any injuries or deaths from any
15 cause resulting from the occupancy and use of speci-
16 fied Park buildings by the Foundation; and

17 (5) any other terms and conditions as the Sec-
18 retary considers appropriate.

19 (c) USE.—Private events hosted at the Park or in
20 Park buildings through an agreement entered into under
21 subsection (a)—

22 (1) shall be limited to activities—

23 (A) consistent with the purposes of the
24 Park; and

1 (B) compatible with National Park Service
2 programs;

3 (2) shall not include activities that degrade the
4 integrity, appearance, or purposes of the Park; and

5 (3) shall not take place during times or in loca-
6 tions that prevent or disrupt public use or access to
7 the Park or Park buildings.

8 (d) RECOVERY OF COSTS.—In entering into an agree-
9 ment under subsection (a), the Secretary—

10 (1) shall charge a fee to cover the cost of main-
11 taining the Park and Park buildings with respect to
12 wear and tear resulting from the private events; and

13 (2) notwithstanding any other provision of law,
14 may recover all costs incurred as a result of the pri-
15 vate events and use of the Park and Park buildings,
16 including administrative and personnel costs.

17 (e) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE-SPONSORED
18 EVENTS.—Nothing in this Act prevents the National Park
19 Service from hosting events or issuing permits to other
20 individuals or entities for special events or otherwise, as
21 appropriate, in the Park or Park buildings.

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