

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO CONDUCT A BOUNDARY STUDY TO EVALUATE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COLONEL JAMES BARRETT FARM IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND THE SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF ITS INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM AS PART OF THE MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

JUNE 16, 2005.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. POMBO, from the Committee on Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 394]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 394) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a boundary study to evaluate the significance of the Colonel James Barrett Farm in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT STUDY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this Act:

(1) BARRETT'S FARM.—The term "Barrett's Farm" means the Colonel James Barrett Farm listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the house and buildings on the approximately 6 acres of land in Concord, Massachusetts.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) STUDY.—Not later than 2 years after the date that funds are made available for this section, the Secretary shall conduct a boundary study to evaluate the significance of Barrett's Farm in Concord, Massachusetts, as well as the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of Minute Man National Historical Park.

(c) CONTENT OF STUDY.—The study shall include an analysis of the following:

(1) The significance of Barrett's Farm in relation to the Revolutionary War.

(2) Opportunities for public enjoyment of the site as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park.

(3) Any operational, management, and private property issues that need to be considered if Barrett's Farm were added to the Minute Man National Historical Park.

(4) A determination of the feasibility of administering Barrett's Farm considering its size, configuration, ownership, costs, and other factors, as part of Minute Man National Historical Park.

(5) An evaluation of the adequacy of other alternatives for management and resource protection of Barrett's Farm.

(d) SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—Upon completion of the study, the Secretary shall submit a report on the findings of the study to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 394 is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a boundary study to evaluate the significance of the Colonel James Barrett Farm in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Barrett's Farm is a five acre parcel listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is recognized as a nationally significant site. The farm, once owned by Colonel James Barrett, stored cannons, powder and other munitions during the Revolutionary War. The study authorized by this bill would consider the opportunities for public enjoyment, operational and management issues, and the feasibility of administration should Barrett's Farm be added to Minute Man National Historical Park. In addition, the study would analyze the role of Barrett's Farm during the Revolutionary War, and other possibilities for management and protection of the area. A local conservation organization, Save our Heritage, is leading the effort for the preservation of Barrett's Farm. It has privately financed the purchase of 3.45 acres around the perimeter of the site, and is attempting to raise funds to purchase the property's farmhouse.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 394 was introduced on January 26, 2005, by Congressman Martin Meehan (D-MA). The bill was referred to the Committee on Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks. On May 18, 2005, the Full Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee on National Parks was discharged from further consideration of the bill by unanimous consent. Congressman Richard Pombo (R-CA) offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute that directs the Secretary to consider private property issues as part of the boundary expansion study, extends the deadline to complete the study from one to two years from when funds are made available, and removes the authorization for appropriations. The Pombo amendment was adopted by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was then favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Re-

sources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8, and Article IV, section 3 of the Constitution of the United States grant Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. Cost of Legislation. Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Congressional Budget Act. As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. General Performance Goals and Objectives. This bill does not authorize funding and therefore, clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply.

4. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate. Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

H.R. 394—A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a boundary study to evaluate the significance of the Colonel James Barrett Farm in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park, and for other purposes

H.R. 394 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to study, within two years, the suitability and feasibility of adding the Colonel James Barrett Farm to the Minute Man National Historical Park in Massachusetts. The proposed study would consider the significance of the farm during the Revolutionary War, opportunities for public enjoyment, and other operational and management issues.

Based on information from the National Park Service, CBO estimates that the proposed study would cost less than \$100,000 over the 2006–2007 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting H.R. 394 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 394 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.

