

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 589

To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16 (legislative day, MARCH 3), 1993

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

A BILL

To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, 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 “Quinebaug and
5 Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act
6 of 1993”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 For purposes of this Act:

9 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
10 means the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley

1 National Heritage Corridor Commission established
2 under section 6.

3 (2) CORRIDOR.—The term “Corridor” means
4 the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National
5 Heritage Corridor established under section 4.

6 (3) GOVERNOR.—The term “Governor” means
7 the Governor of the State of Connecticut.

8 (4) PLAN.—The term “Plan” means the Cul-
9 tural Heritage and Corridor Management Plan to be
10 prepared by the Commission pursuant to section 9.

11 (5) REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION.—The
12 term “regional planning organization” means each
13 of the 3 regional planning organizations established
14 by Connecticut State statute chapter 127 and chap-
15 ter 50 (the Northeast Council of Governments, the
16 Windham Regional Planning Agency or its succes-
17 sor, and the Southeastern Connecticut Regional
18 Planning Agency or its successor).

19 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
20 the Secretary of the Interior.

21 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

22 Congress finds that—

23 (1) the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
24 in Connecticut is one of the last unspoiled and unde-
25 veloped areas in the Northeastern United States and

1 has remained largely intact, including important ab-
2 original archaeological sites, excellent water quality,
3 beautiful rural landscapes, architecturally significant
4 mill structures and mill villages, and large acreage
5 of parks and other permanent open space;

6 (2) Connecticut ranks last among the 50 States
7 in the quantity of federally protected park and open
8 space lands within its borders and lags far behind
9 the other northeastern States in the quantity of land
10 set aside for public recreation;

11 (3) the beautiful rural landscapes, scenic vistas
12 and excellent water quality of the Quinebaug and
13 Shetucket Rivers contain significant undeveloped
14 recreational opportunities for people throughout the
15 United States;

16 (4) the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
17 is within a 2-hour drive of the major metropolitan
18 areas of New York City, Hartford, Providence,
19 Worcester, Springfield, and Boston;

20 (5) with the President's Commission on Ameri-
21 cans Outdoors reporting that Americans are taking
22 shorter "closer-to-home" vacations, the Quinebaug
23 and Shetucket Rivers Valley represents important
24 recreational opportunities for a significant portion of
25 the population;

1 (6) the existing mill sites and other structures
2 throughout the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers
3 Valley were instrumental in the development of the
4 industrial revolution;

5 (7) the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
6 contains a vast number of discovered and unre-
7 covered Native American and colonial archaeological
8 sites significant to the history of North America and
9 the United States;

10 (8) the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
11 represents one of the last traditional upland farming
12 and mill village communities in the northeastern
13 United States;

14 (9) the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
15 played a nationally significant role in the cultural
16 evolution of the prewar colonial period and led the
17 transformation from Puritan to Yankee, the “Great
18 Awakening” religious revival and early political de-
19 velopment leading up to and during the War of
20 Independence; and

21 (10) many local, regional, and State agencies,
22 businesses, and private citizens and the New Eng-
23 land Governors’ Conference have expressed an over-
24 whelming desire to combine forces to work coopera-

1 tively to preserve and enhance resources regionwide
2 and better plan for the future.

3 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET**
4 **RIVERS VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE COR-**
5 **RIDOR; PURPOSE.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
7 State of Connecticut the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers
8 Valley National Heritage Corridor.

9 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to pro-
10 vide a management framework to assist the State of Con-
11 necticut, and local and regional governments and citizens
12 of Connecticut in the development and implementation of
13 integrated cultural, historical, and recreational land re-
14 source management programs to retain, enhance, and in-
15 terpret the significant features of the lands, water, and
16 structures of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
17 in Connecticut.

18 **SEC. 5. BOUNDARIES.**

19 The Boundaries of the Corridor shall include the
20 towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Cov-
21 entry, Eastford, Franklin, Griswold, Hampton, Killingly,
22 Lebanon, Lisbon, Mansfield, Norwich, Plainfield, Pomfret,
23 Preston, Putnam, Scotland, Sprague, Sterling, Thompson,
24 Voluntown, Windham, and Woodstock. As soon as is prac-
25 ticable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-

1 retary shall publish in the Federal Register a detailed de-
2 scription and map of the boundaries established under this
3 section.

4 **SEC. 6. QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET RIVERS VALLEY NA-**
5 **TIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the
7 Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage
8 Corridor Commission. The Commission shall assist appro-
9 priate Federal, State, regional planning organizations, and
10 local authorities in the development and implementation
11 of an integrated resource management plan for the lands
12 and water described in section 5.

13 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—Not later than 180 days after the
14 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall appoint
15 the following 19 members of the Commission:

16 (1) The Director of the National Park Service
17 ex officio (or the delegate of the Director).

18 (2) Three individuals nominated by the Gov-
19 ernor who shall be—

20 (A) the Commissioner of the Connecticut
21 Department of Environmental Protection, or a
22 person representing the interests of the Com-
23 missioner;

1 (B) the Chairman of the Connecticut His-
2 torical Commission or a person representing the
3 interests of the Chairman; and

4 (C) the Commissioner of the Connecticut
5 Department of Economic Development or a per-
6 son representing the interests of the Commis-
7 sioner.

8 (3) Six individuals representing the interests of
9 local governments or regional planning organizations
10 from Connecticut nominated by the Governor, of
11 whom—

12 (A) three individuals shall be representa-
13 tives of the 3 regional planning organizations
14 within the Corridor region; and

15 (B) three individuals shall be local elected
16 officials from the region.

17 (4) Nine individuals from the general public
18 nominated by the Governor, who are citizens of the
19 State of Connecticut, and who represent conserva-
20 tion, business, tourism, and recreational interests.

21 (c) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall
22 be filled in the manner in which the original appointment
23 was made.

24 (d) TERMS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Commis-
2 sion shall be appointed for a term of 3 years and
3 may be reappointed.

4 (2) VACANCY.—Any member appointed to fill a
5 vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term
6 for which the predecessor of the member was ap-
7 pointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of
8 the term. Any member of the Commission appointed
9 for a definite term may serve after the expiration of
10 the term of the member until the successor of the
11 member has taken office.

12 (e) COMPENSATION.—A member of the Commission
13 shall receive no compensation for the service of the mem-
14 ber but shall be allowed travel expenses, including per
15 diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as a per-
16 son employed intermittently in the Government service
17 under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, while
18 away from their homes or a regular place of business in
19 the performance of services for the Commission.

20 (f) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Commis-
21 sion shall be elected by the members of the Commission.

22 (g) QUORUM.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Eight members of the Com-
24 mission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser num-
25 ber may hold hearings.

1 (2) BUDGETS.—The affirmative vote of not less
2 than 10 members of the Commission shall be re-
3 quired to approve the budget of the Commission.

4 (h) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall hold the first
5 meeting of the Commission not later than 90 days after
6 the date on which the members of the Commission are
7 appointed, and shall meet at least quarterly at the call
8 of the Chairperson or at least 10 members of the Commis-
9 sion. A meeting of the Commission shall be subject to sec-
10 tion 552(b) of title 5, United States Code.

11 (i) PROXY.—Any member of the Commission may
12 vote by means of a signed proxy exercised by another
13 member of the Commission, but any member so voting
14 shall not be considered present for purposes of establish-
15 ing a quorum.

16 **SEC. 7. STAFF OF THE COMMISSION.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall have
19 the power to appoint and fix compensation of such
20 staff as may be necessary to carry out the duties of
21 the Commission.

22 (2) APPOINTMENTS; COMPENSATION.—Staff ap-
23 pointed by the Commission—

1 (A) shall be appointed subject to the provi-
2 sions of title 5, United States Code, governing
3 appointments in the competitive service; and

4 (B) shall be paid in accordance with provi-
5 sions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chap-
6 ter 53 of such title relating to classification and
7 General Schedule pay rates.

8 (b) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—Subject to such
9 rules as may be adopted by the Commission, the Commis-
10 sion may procure temporary and intermittent services to
11 the same extent as is authorized by section 3109(b) of title
12 5, United States Code, but at rates determined by the
13 Commission to be reasonable.

14 (c) STAFF OF OTHER AGENCIES.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Upon request of the Com-
16 mission, the head of any Federal agency may detail,
17 on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of the
18 agency to the Commission to assist the Commission
19 in carrying out the duties of the Commission.

20 (2) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Commission may
21 accept the service of personnel detailed from a State,
22 political subdivision, or regional planning organiza-
23 tion, and may reimburse the State, political subdivi-
24 sion, or regional planning organization for these
25 services.

1 **SEC. 8. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

2 (a) HEARINGS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may, for
4 the purposes of carrying out this Act, hold hearings,
5 sit and act at such times and places, take such testi-
6 mony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission
7 considers appropriate.

8 (2) SUBPOENAS.—The Commission may not
9 issue subpoenas or exercise any subpoena authority.

10 (b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any mem-
11 ber or agent of the Commission, if so authorized by the
12 Commission, may take any action that the Commission is
13 authorized to take by this Act.

14 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—The Ad-
15 ministrator of the General Services Administration shall
16 provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, such
17 administrative support services as the Commission may re-
18 quest.

19 (d) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may use
20 the United States mails in the same manner and under
21 the same conditions as other departments and other agen-
22 cies of the United States.

23 (e) USE OF FUNDS TO OBTAIN MONEY.—The Com-
24 mission may use the funds of the Commission to obtain
25 money from any source under any program or law requir-

1 ing the recipient of the money to make a contribution in
2 order to receive the money.

3 (f) GIFTS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may seek,
5 accept, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or donations
6 of money, personal property, or services.

7 (2) TAX CONSEQUENCES.—For purposes of sec-
8 tion 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,
9 any gift to the Commission shall be a gift to the
10 United States.

11 (g) ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
13 the Commission may acquire real property, or inter-
14 est in real property, in the Corridor—

15 (A) by gift or devise; or

16 (B) by purchase from a willing seller with
17 donated or appropriated funds.

18 (2) MANAGEMENT OF REAL PROPERTY.—Any
19 real property or interest in real property acquired by
20 the Commission under paragraph (1) shall be con-
21 veyed to an appropriate public or private land man-
22 agement agency, as determined by the Commission.
23 Any such conveyance shall be made—

24 (A) as soon as is practicable after the ac-
25 quisition;

1 (B) without consideration; and

2 (C) on the condition that the real property
3 or interest in real property shall be used for
4 public purposes.

5 (h) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Commission
6 may enter into a cooperative agreement with the State of
7 Connecticut, a political subdivision, an individual, or an
8 organization. Any cooperative agreement shall establish
9 procedures for providing notice to the Commission of any
10 action proposed by the State, political subdivision, individ-
11 ual, or organization that may affect implementation of the
12 plan referred to in section 9.

13 (i) ADVISORY GROUPS.—The Commission may estab-
14 lish such advisory groups as the Commission determines
15 are necessary to ensure open communication with, and as-
16 sistance from, the State, political subdivisions of the State,
17 regional planning organizations, and interested persons.

18 **SEC. 9. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND CORRIDOR MANAGE-**
19 **MENT PLAN.**

20 (a) PREPARATION OF PLAN.—Not later than 2 years
21 after the date on which the Commission conducts the first
22 meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall submit
23 to the Secretary and the Governor for review and approval
24 a Cultural Heritage and Corridor Management Plan. The
25 Plan shall be based on then current Federal, State, and

1 local plans, but shall present a unified historic preserva-
2 tion, interpretation, and recreational plan for the Cor-
3 ridor.

4 (b) DETAILS OF PLAN.—The Plan shall—

5 (1) provide an inventory that includes any prop-
6 erty in the Corridor that should be preserved, re-
7 stored, managed, developed, maintained, or acquired
8 because of the national historic, cultural, or rec-
9 reational significance of the property;

10 (2) recommend advisory standards and criteria
11 applicable to the construction, preservation, restora-
12 tion, alteration, and use of all properties within the
13 Corridor;

14 (3) develop a historic interpretation plan;

15 (4) develop an inventory that includes then cur-
16 rent and potential recreational sites that are devel-
17 oped or that could be developed along the Quinebaug
18 and Shetucket Rivers and surrounding areas;

19 (5) recommend policies for resource manage-
20 ment that consider and detail application of appro-
21 priate land and water management techniques, in-
22 cluding the development of intergovernmental coop-
23 erative agreements to protect the historical, cultural,
24 recreational, scenic, and natural resources of the

1 Corridor in a manner consistent with supporting
2 compatible economic revitalization efforts;

3 (6) detail ways in which local, State, and Fed-
4 eral programs may best be coordinated to promote
5 the purposes of this Act; and

6 (7) contain a program for implementation of
7 the Plan by the State.

8 (c) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—After review and
9 approval of the Plan by the Secretary and the Governor,
10 the Commission shall implement the Plan by taking appro-
11 priate steps to preserve and interpret the historic re-
12 sources, develop the recreational resources of the Corridor
13 and surrounding areas, and support public and private ef-
14 forts in economic revitalization, consistent with the goals
15 of the Plan. The steps may include—

16 (1) assisting State and local governmental enti-
17 ties, regional planning organizations, and nonprofit
18 organizations in—

19 (A) preserving the Corridor and ensuring
20 appropriate use of lands and structures
21 throughout the Corridor;

22 (B) establishing and maintaining visitor
23 centers and other interpretive exhibits in the
24 Corridor;

1 (C) developing recreational programs and
2 resources in the Corridor;

3 (D) increasing public awareness of and ap-
4 preciation for the historical and architectural
5 resources and sites in the Corridor;

6 (E) restoring any historic building in the
7 Corridor; and

8 (F) ensure that clear, consistent signs
9 identifying access points and sites of interest
10 are established throughout the Corridor; and

11 (2) encouraging by appropriate means enhanced
12 economic and industrial development in the Corridor
13 consistent with the goals of the Plan; and

14 (3) encouraging local governments to adopt
15 land use policies consistent with the management of
16 the Corridor and the goals of the Plan.

17 **SEC. 10. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

18 (a) APPROVAL OF PLAN.—The Secretary, in con-
19 sultation with the Governor, shall approve or disapprove
20 a Plan submitted under this Act by the Commission not
21 later than 60 days after receiving the Plan. The Secretary,
22 in consultation with the Governor, shall approve a Plan
23 if—

24 (1) the Plan would adequately protect signifi-
25 cant historical and cultural resources of the Corridor

1 while providing adequate and appropriate outdoor
2 recreational opportunities and economic activities
3 within the Corridor;

4 (2) the Commission held public hearings and
5 provided adequate opportunity for comment in the
6 preparation of the Plan; and

7 (3) the Secretary receives adequate assurances
8 from appropriate State officials that—

9 (A) the recommended implementation pro-
10 gram identified in the Plan will be initiated
11 within a reasonable time after date of approval
12 of the Plan; and

13 (B) the implementation program will en-
14 sure effective implementation of the State and
15 local aspects of the Plan.

16 (b) DISAPPROVAL OF PLAN.—If the Secretary dis-
17 approves a Plan, the Secretary shall advise the Commis-
18 sion in writing of the reasons for disapproval and shall
19 make recommendations for revisions in the Plan. Not later
20 than 90 days after the receipt of the notice of disapproval,
21 the Commission shall revise and resubmit the Plan to the
22 Secretary who shall approve or disapprove a proposed revi-
23 sion not later than 60 days after the date the Plan is sub-
24 mitted to the Secretary.

1 (c) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall, upon request
2 of the Commission, assist the Commission in the prepara-
3 tion and implementation of Plan.

4 **SEC. 11. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL ENTITIES.**

5 A Federal entity conducting or supporting activities
6 directly affecting the Corridor shall—

7 (1) consult with the Secretary and the Commis-
8 sion with respect to the activities;

9 (2) cooperate with the Secretary and the Com-
10 mission with respect to the activities and, to the ex-
11 tent practicable, coordinate the activities; and

12 (3) to the extent practicable, conduct or support
13 the activities in a manner that the Commission
14 determines will not have an adverse effect on the
15 Corridor.

16 **SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 (a) COMMISSION.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
19 there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
20 the duties of the Commission under this Act
21 \$200,000 for fiscal year 1994, and \$250,000 for
22 each subsequent fiscal year.

23 (2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
24 the operating costs of the Commission under this
25 Act shall not exceed 50 percent.

1 (b) SECRETARY.—There are authorized to be appro-
2 priated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the
3 duties of the Secretary under this Act.

4 **SEC. 13. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.**

5 (a) TERMINATION.—Except as provided in subsection
6 (b), the Commission shall terminate on the date that is
7 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

8 (b) EXTENSION.—The Commission may be extended
9 for a period of not more than 5 years beginning on the
10 termination date referred to in subsection (a) if, not later
11 than 180 days before the date—

12 (1) the Commission determines the extension is
13 necessary to carry out this Act;

14 (2) the Commission submits the proposed ex-
15 tension to the Committee on Natural Resources of
16 the United States House of Representatives and the
17 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
18 United States Senate; and

19 (3) the Secretary, in consultation with the Gov-
20 ernor, approves the extension.

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