

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3708

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study whether the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be protected as a wilderness area.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 1998

Mr. OBEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study whether the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be protected as a wilderness area.

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 “Gaylord Nelson Apos-  
5 tle Islands Stewardship Act of 1998”.

6 **SEC. 2. GAYLORD NELSON APOSTLE ISLANDS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is  
9 a national and a Wisconsin treasure.

1           (2) The sesquicentennial year of the State of  
2 Wisconsin provides an opportunity to reflect on and  
3 act to protect important components of the State's  
4 ecological and cultural identity, such as the Lake-  
5 shore.

6           (3) The State of Wisconsin is particularly in-  
7 debted to former Senator Gaylord Nelson for his  
8 leadership in the creation of the Lakeshore.

9           (4) After 28 years of enjoyment, some issues  
10 critical to maintaining the overall ecological, rec-  
11 reational, and cultural vision of the Lakeshore need  
12 additional attention.

13           (5) The general management planning process  
14 for the Lakeshore has identified a need for a formal  
15 wilderness study.

16           (6) All lands within the Lakeshore that might  
17 be suitable for designation as wilderness are cur-  
18 rently zoned and managed to protect wilderness  
19 characteristics pending completion of such a study.

20           (7) Several historic lighthouses within the  
21 Lakeshore are currently in danger of structural  
22 damage due to severe erosion.

23           (8) The Secretary of the Interior has been un-  
24 able to take full advantage of cooperative agree-  
25 ments with Federal, State, local, and tribal govern-

1 mental agencies, institutions of higher education,  
2 and other nonprofit organizations that could assist  
3 the National Park Service by contributing to the  
4 management of the Lakeshore.

5 (9) Because of competing needs in other units  
6 of the National Park System, the standard authoriz-  
7 ing and budgetary process has not resulted in up-  
8 dated legislative authority and necessary funding for  
9 improvements to the Lakeshore.

10 (10) The need for improvements to the Lake-  
11 shore and completion of a wilderness study should be  
12 accorded a high priority among National Park Serv-  
13 ice activities.

14 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) LAKESHORE.—The term “Lakeshore”  
16 means the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

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

20 (c) WILDERNESS STUDY.—In fulfillment of the re-  
21 sponsibilities of the Secretary under the Wilderness Act  
22 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and of applicable agency policy,  
23 the Secretary shall evaluate areas of land within the Lake-  
24 shore for inclusion in the National Wilderness System.

1 (d) APOSTLE ISLANDS LIGHTHOUSES.—The Sec-  
2 retary shall undertake appropriate action (including pro-  
3 tection of the bluff toe beneath the lighthouses, stabiliza-  
4 tion of the bank face, and dewatering of the area imme-  
5 diately shoreward of the bluffs) to protect the lighthouse  
6 structures at Raspberry Lighthouse and Outer Island  
7 Lighthouse within the Lakeshore.

8 (e) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—Section 6 of Pub-  
9 lic Law 91–424 (16 U.S.C. 460w–5) is amended—

10 (1) by striking “SEC. 6. The lakeshore” and in-  
11 serting the following:

12 **“SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The lakeshore”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary  
16 may enter into a cooperative agreement with a Federal,  
17 State, tribal, or local government agency or a nonprofit  
18 private entity if the Secretary determines that a coopera-  
19 tive agreement would be beneficial in carrying out section  
20 7.”.

21 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
22 are authorized to be appropriated—

23 (1) \$200,000 to carry out subsection (e); and

24 (2) \$3,900,000 to carry out subsection (d).

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