

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 791

AN ACT

To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the route of the War of 1812 British invasion of Maryland and Washington, District of Columbia, and the route of the American defense, for study for potential addition to the national trails system.

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To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the route of the War of 1812 British invasion of Maryland and Washington, District of Columbia, and the route of the American defense, for study for potential addition to the national trails system.

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 “Star-Spangled Banner
5 National Historic Trail Study Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the British invasion of Maryland and Wash-
9 ington, District of Columbia, during the War of
10 1812 marks a defining period in the history of our
11 Nation, the only occasion on which the United
12 States of America has been invaded by a foreign
13 power;

14 (2) the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic
15 Trail traces the arrival of the British fleet in the Pa-
16 tuxent River in Calvert County and St. Mary’s
17 County, Maryland, the landing of British forces at
18 Benedict, the sinking of the Chesapeake Flotilla at
19 Pig Point in Prince George’s County and Anne
20 Arundel County, Maryland, the American defeat at
21 the Battle of Bladensburg, the siege of the Nation’s
22 Capital, Washington, District of Columbia (including
23 the burning of the United States Capitol and the
24 White House), the British naval diversions in the
25 upper Chesapeake Bay leading to the Battle of

1 Caulk’s Field in Kent County, Maryland, the route
2 of the American troops from Washington through
3 Georgetown, the Maryland Counties of Montgomery,
4 Howard, and Baltimore, and the city of Baltimore,
5 Maryland, to the Battle of North Point, and the ulti-
6 mate victory of the Americans at Fort McHenry on
7 September 14, 1814, where a distinguished Mary-
8 land lawyer and poet, Francis Scott Key, wrote the
9 words that captured the essence of our national
10 struggle for independence, words that now serve as
11 our national anthem, the Star-Spangled Banner; and

12 (3) the designation of this route as a national
13 historic trail—

14 (A) would serve as a reminder of the im-
15 portance of the concept of liberty to all who ex-
16 perience the Star-Spangled Banner National
17 Historic Trail; and

18 (B) would give long overdue recognition to
19 the patriots whose determination to stand firm
20 against enemy invasion and bombardment pre-
21 served this liberty for future generations of
22 Americans.

23 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF TRAIL FOR STUDY.**

24 Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16
25 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraph (36) (as added
2 by section 3 of the El Camino Real Para Los Texas
3 Study Act of 1993 (107 Stat. 1497)) as paragraph
4 (37) and in subparagraph (C) by striking
5 “detemine” and inserting “determine”;

6 (2) by designating the paragraphs relating to
7 the Old Spanish Trail and the Great Western Scenic
8 Trail as paragraphs (38) and (39), respectively; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(40) STAR-SPANGLED BANNER NATIONAL HIS-
11 TORIC TRAIL.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Star-Spangled Banner
13 National Historic Trail, tracing the War of 1812
14 route from the arrival of the British fleet in the Pa-
15 tuxent River in Calvert County and St. Mary’s
16 County, Maryland, the landing of the British forces
17 at Benedict, the sinking of the Chesapeake Flotilla
18 at Pig Point, the American defeat at the Battle of
19 Bladensburg, the siege of the Nation’s Capital,
20 Washington, District of Columbia (including the
21 burning of the United States Capitol and the White
22 House), the British naval diversions in the upper
23 Chesapeake Bay leading to the Battle of Caulk’s
24 Field in Kent County, Maryland, the route of the
25 American troops from Washington through George-

1 town, the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, How-
2 ard, and Baltimore, and the city of Baltimore, Mary-
3 land, to the Battle of North Point, and the ultimate
4 victory of the Americans at Fort McHenry on Sep-
5 tember 14, 1814.

6 “(B) AFFECTED AREAS.—The trail crosses 8
7 counties within the boundaries of the State of Mary-
8 land, the city of Baltimore, Maryland, and Wash-
9 ington, District of Columbia.

10 “(C) COORDINATION WITH OTHER CONGRES-
11 SIONALLY MANDATED ACTIVITIES.—The study under
12 this paragraph shall be undertaken in coordination
13 with the study authorized under section 603 of the
14 Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act
15 of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5 note; 110 Stat. 4172) and
16 the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Net-
17 work authorized under the Chesapeake Bay Initia-
18 tive Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 461 note; 112 Stat.
19 2961). Such coordination shall extend to any re-
20 search needed to complete the studies and any find-
21 ings and implementation actions that result from the
22 studies and shall use available resources to the
23 greatest extent possible to avoid unnecessary dupli-
24 cation of effort.

1 “(D) DEADLINE FOR STUDY.—Not later that 2
2 years after funds are made available for the study
3 under this paragraph, the study shall be completed
4 and transmitted with final recommendations to the
5 Committee on Resources in the House of Represent-
6 atives and the Committee on Energy and Natural
7 Resources in the Senate.”.

Passed the House of Representatives June 30, 1999.

Attest:

Clerk.