

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2756

To establish the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership in the States of Vermont and New York, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2002

Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mrs. CLINTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership in the States of Vermont and New York, 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 “Champlain Valley Na-  
5 tional Heritage Partnership Act of 2002”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Champlain Valley and its extensive cul-  
9 tural and natural resources have played a significant

1 role in the history of the United States and the indi-  
2 vidual States of Vermont and New York;

3 (2) archaeological evidence indicates that the  
4 Champlain Valley has been inhabited by humans  
5 since the last retreat of the glaciers, with the Native  
6 Americans living in the area at the time of Euro-  
7 pean discovery being primarily of Iroquois and  
8 Algonquin descent;

9 (3) the linked waterways of the Champlain Val-  
10 ley, including the Richelieu River in Canada, played  
11 a unique and significant role in the establishment  
12 and development of the United States and Canada  
13 through several distinct eras, including—

14 (A) the era of European exploration, dur-  
15 ing which Samuel de Champlain and other ex-  
16 plorers used the waterways as a means of ac-  
17 cess through the wilderness;

18 (B) the era of military campaigns, includ-  
19 ing highly significant military campaigns of the  
20 French and Indian War, the American Revolu-  
21 tion, and the War of 1812; and

22 (C) the era of maritime commerce, during  
23 which canal boats, schooners, and steamships  
24 formed the backbone of commercial transpor-  
25 tation for the region;

1           (4) those unique and significant eras are best  
2 described by the theme “The Making of Nations and  
3 Corridors of Commerce”;

4           (5) the artifacts and structures associated with  
5 those eras are unusually well-preserved;

6           (6) the Champlain Valley is recognized as hav-  
7 ing one of the richest collections of historical re-  
8 sources in North America;

9           (7) the history and cultural heritage of the  
10 Champlain Valley are shared with Canada and the  
11 Province of Quebec;

12           (8) there are benefits in celebrating and pro-  
13 moting this mutual heritage;

14           (9) tourism is among the most important indus-  
15 tries in the Champlain Valley, and heritage tourism  
16 in particular plays a significant role in the economy  
17 of the Champlain Valley;

18           (10) it is important to enhance heritage tourism  
19 in the Champlain Valley while ensuring that in-  
20 creased visitation will not impair the historical and  
21 cultural resources of the region;

22           (11) according to the 1999 report of the Na-  
23 tional Park Service entitled “Champlain Valley Her-  
24 itage Corridor Project”, “the Champlain Valley con-  
25 tains resources and represents a theme ‘the Making

1 of Nations and Corridors of Commerce’, that is of  
2 outstanding importance in U.S. history’; and

3 (12) it is in the interest of the United States  
4 to preserve and interpret the historical and cultural  
5 resources of the Champlain Valley for the education  
6 and benefit of present and future generations.

7 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

8 (1) to establish the Champlain Valley National  
9 Heritage Partnership in the States of Vermont and  
10 New York to recognize the importance of the histor-  
11 ical, cultural, and recreational resources of the  
12 Champlain Valley region to the United States;

13 (2) to assist the States of Vermont and New  
14 York, including units of local government and non-  
15 governmental organizations in the States, in pre-  
16 serving, protecting, and interpreting those resources  
17 for the benefit of the people of the United States;

18 (3) to use those resources and the theme “The  
19 Making of Nations and Corridors of Commerce”  
20 to—

21 (A) revitalize the economy of communities  
22 in the Champlain Valley; and

23 (B) generate and sustain increased levels  
24 of tourism in the Champlain Valley;

25 (4) to encourage—

1 (A) partnerships among State and local  
2 governments and nongovernmental organiza-  
3 tions in the United States; and

4 (B) collaboration with Canada and the  
5 Province of Quebec to—

6 (i) interpret and promote the history  
7 of the waterways of the Champlain Valley  
8 region;

9 (ii) form stronger bonds between the  
10 United States and Canada; and

11 (iii) promote the international aspects  
12 of the Champlain Valley region; and

13 (5) to provide financial and technical assistance  
14 for the purposes described in paragraphs (1)  
15 through (4).

16 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

17 In this Act:

18 (1) **HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP.**—The term “Her-  
19 itage Partnership” means the Champlain Valley Na-  
20 tional Heritage Partnership established by section  
21 4(a).

22 (2) **MANAGEMENT ENTITY.**—The term “man-  
23 agement entity” means the Lake Champlain Basin  
24 Program.

1           (3) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term “manage-  
2           ment plan” means the management plan developed  
3           under section 4(b)(1)(B)(i).

4           (4) REGION.—

5           (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “region”  
6           means any area or community in 1 of the  
7           States in which a physical, cultural, or histor-  
8           ical resource that represents the theme is lo-  
9           cated.

10          (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “region”  
11          includes—

12               (i) the linked navigable waterways  
13               of—

14                       (I) Lake Champlain;

15                       (II) Lake George;

16                       (III) the Champlain Canal; and

17                       (IV) the portion of the Upper

18                       Hudson River extending south to

19                       Saratoga;

20               (ii) portions of Grand Isle, Franklin,  
21               Chittenden, Addison, Rutland, and  
22               Bennington Counties in the State of  
23               Vermont; and

1 (iii) portions of Clinton, Essex, War-  
 2 ren, Saratoga, and Washington Counties in  
 3 the State of New York.

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

6 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means—

7 (A) the State of Vermont; and

8 (B) the State of New York.

9 (7) THEME.—The term “theme” means the  
 10 theme “The Making of Nations and Corridors of  
 11 Commerce”, as the term is used in the 1999 report  
 12 of the National Park Service entitled “Champlain  
 13 Valley Heritage Corridor Project”, that describes the  
 14 periods of international conflict and maritime com-  
 15 merce during which the region played a unique and  
 16 significant role in the development of the United  
 17 States and Canada.

18 **SEC. 4. HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP.**

19 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the re-  
 20 gion the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership.

21 (b) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—

22 (1) DUTIES.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—The management entity  
 24 shall implement this Act.

25 (B) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3  
2 years after the date of enactment of this  
3 Act, the management entity shall develop a  
4 management plan for the Heritage Part-  
5 nership.

6 (ii) CONTENTS.—The management  
7 plan shall include—

8 (I) recommendations for funding,  
9 managing, and developing the Herit-  
10 age Partnership;

11 (II) a description of activities to  
12 be carried out by public and private  
13 organizations to protect the resources  
14 of the Heritage Partnership;

15 (III) a list of specific, potential  
16 sources of funding for the protection,  
17 management, and development of the  
18 Heritage Partnership;

19 (IV) an assessment of the organi-  
20 zational capacity of the management  
21 entity to achieve the goals for imple-  
22 mentation; and

23 (V) recommendations of ways in  
24 which to encourage collaboration with

1 Canada and the Province of Quebec in  
2 implementing this Act.

3 (iii) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing  
4 the management plan under clause (i), the  
5 management entity shall take into consid-  
6 eration existing Federal, State, and local  
7 plans relating to the region.

8 (2) PARTNERSHIPS.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this  
10 Act, the management entity may enter into  
11 partnerships with—

12 (i) the States, including units of local  
13 governments in the States;

14 (ii) nongovernmental organizations;

15 (iii) Indian tribes; and

16 (iv) other persons in the Heritage  
17 Partnership.

18 (B) GRANTS.—Subject to the availability  
19 of funds, the management entity may provide  
20 grants to partners under subparagraph (A) to  
21 assist in implementing this Act.

22 (3) PROHIBITION ON THE ACQUISITION OF  
23 REAL PROPERTY.—The management entity shall not  
24 use Federal funds made available under this Act to

1       acquire real property or any interest in real prop-  
2       erty.

3       (c) ASSISTANCE FROM SECRETARY.—To carry out  
4 the purposes of this Act, the Secretary may provide ad-  
5 ministrative, technical, financial, design, development, and  
6 operations assistance.

7 **SEC. 5. EFFECT.**

8       Nothing in this Act—

9           (1) grants powers of zoning or land use to the  
10       management entity;

11           (2) modifies, enlarges, or diminishes the author-  
12       ity of the Federal Government or a State or local  
13       government to manage or regulate any use of land  
14       under any law (including regulations); or

15           (3) obstructs or limits private business develop-  
16       ment activities or resource development activities.

17 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18       (a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-  
19 priated to carry out this Act not more than a total of  
20 \$30,000,000, of which not more than \$2,000,000 may be  
21 made available for any fiscal year.

22       (b) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share  
23 of the cost of any activities carried out using Federal  
24 funds made available under subsection (a) shall be not less  
25 than 10 percent.

1 **SEC. 7. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.**

2       The authority of the Secretary to provide assistance  
3 under this Act terminates on the date that is 15 years  
4 after the date of enactment of this Act.

