

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2715

To provide for necessary improvements to facilities at Yosemite National Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2003

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

A BILL

To provide for necessary improvements to facilities at Yosemite National Park, 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. AUTHORIZATION FOR PARK FACILITIES TO BE**
4 **LOCATED OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES OF YO-**
5 **SEMITE NATIONAL PARK.**

6 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—In order to facilitate the ad-
7 ministration of Yosemite National Park, the Secretary of
8 the Interior is authorized, under such terms and condi-
9 tions as the Secretary may deem advisable, to expend do-
10 nated funds, funds collected from user fees, or appro-

1 priated funds for the planning, design, construction of,
2 and related activities for, essential facilities for Park and
3 concessions administration and visitor use outside the
4 boundaries, but within the vicinity, of the Park. Such fa-
5 cilities and the use thereof shall be in conformity with ap-
6 proved plans for the Park. Such facilities may only be con-
7 structed by the Secretary upon a finding that the facilities
8 are necessary for Park operation, and that the location
9 of such facilities would—

10 (1) avoid undue degradation of natural or cul-
11 tural resources within the Park;

12 (2) enhance service to the public; or

13 (3) provide a cost saving to the Federal Govern-
14 ment.

15 (b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary
16 may enter into cooperative agreements with local govern-
17 ments or private entities to undertake the activities grant-
18 ed under this section. The Secretary is encouraged to iden-
19 tify and use alternative funding sources to supplement any
20 Federal funding used for these facilities.

21 **SEC. 2. PLANNING; TRANSPORTATION; VISITOR SERVICE**
22 **PROJECTS.**

23 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall allocate
24 amounts made available under section 1(a) to carry out
25 the following activities:

1 (1) Planning and restoration of low-impact
2 camping at upper and lower river campgrounds. The
3 Secretary may use amounts appropriated to the Sec-
4 retary for flood recovery in the Yosemite Valley to
5 carry out planning (including environmental docu-
6 mentation) and development related to the activities
7 required under this paragraph.

8 (2) Construction and maintenance of the max-
9 imum amount of parking available at Camp 6 and
10 adjacent previously impacted lands.

11 (3) Cooperation and participation (including the
12 provision of technical and financial assistance) with
13 governments of counties located in the vicinity of
14 Park for the preparation of county general and spe-
15 cific plans related to determining the feasibility of
16 locating park administrative facilities, visitor services
17 and facilities, housing, or other facilities necessary
18 for Park operations outside the boundaries of the
19 Park. Not later than December 31, 2003, and annu-
20 ally thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the
21 Committee on Resources of the House of Represent-
22 atives and the Committee on Energy and Natural
23 Resources of the Senate a description of the actions
24 that the Secretary has taken under this paragraph.

1 (4) Consistent with the projects described in
2 paragraphs (1) through (3), development of traffic
3 management and traveler information services, sign-
4 age, and circulation improvements.

5 (5) Provision of housing for employees of the
6 Federal Government and employees of conces-
7 sionaires related to the Park who are required as a
8 condition of employment to reside in Yosemite Val-
9 ley. Notwithstanding the last sentence of section
10 814(a)(8) of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands
11 Management Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 170 note; 110
12 Stat. 4192), for employee housing requirements out-
13 side of Yosemite Valley, the Secretary shall use part-
14 nerships with private entities whenever practicable
15 and cost effective, including through leases and lease
16 agreements. Guarantees to carry out this paragraph
17 shall not apply against the limitation in the last sen-
18 tence of such section 814(a)(8).

19 (6) Entering into and carrying out cooperative
20 agreements with the Yosemite Area Regional Trans-
21 portation System Joint Powers Authority to trans-
22 port employees of the Federal Government and em-
23 ployees of concessionaires related to the Park to and
24 from the Park for the purposes of their employment.

1 (7) Removal of the Le Conte Memorial, a pri-
2 vate special use, from the Park and restoration of
3 the grounds of that memorial to its natural state.

4 (b) PROHIBITED PROJECTS.—The Secretary may not
5 allocate amounts described in section 1(a) to implement
6 a shuttle system which uses remote parking facilities or
7 includes operations outside of the boundaries of Yosemite
8 Valley.

9 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

10 For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions
11 apply:

12 (1) PARK.—The term “Park” means Yosemite
13 National Park.

14 (2) RECORD OF DECISION.—The term “Record
15 of Decision” means the record of decision entitled
16 “Final Yosemite Valley Plan Supplemental Environ-
17 mental Impact Statement” dated December 29,
18 2000.

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

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