

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 4120

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Brunswick, Maine, to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 8, 2006

Ms. SNOWE 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 authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Brunswick, Maine, to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park System, 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 “Harriet Beecher Stowe  
5       House Special Resource Study Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) Harriet Beecher Stowe, who lived from  
4 1811 to 1896, was an important author, humani-  
5 tarian, and abolitionist during the 19th century;

6 (2) from the period beginning in 1850 and end-  
7 ing in 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe lived at the  
8 house located at 63 Federal Street in Brunswick,  
9 Maine (referred to in this Act as the “Harriet Bee-  
10 cher Stowe House”);

11 (3) while living in that house, Harriet Beecher  
12 Stowe penned “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”, one of the  
13 most influential antislavery novels that introduced to  
14 the citizens of the United States the horrors of slav-  
15 ery;

16 (4) the influence of that novel proved to be so  
17 great that it prompted President Abraham Lincoln,  
18 when meeting with Harriet Beecher Stowe, to re-  
19 mark “So you’re the little lady who wrote the book  
20 that started this Great War.”;

21 (5) “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”—

22 (A) has been translated into 23 languages;  
23 and

24 (B) is still considered by many critics and  
25 academics to be the most famous example of  
26 antislavery literature; and

1           (6) the Harriet Beecher Stowe House was des-  
2           ignated as a National Historic Landmark in 1963.

3 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

4           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the  
5           date on which funds are made available to carry out this  
6           Act, the Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act  
7           as the “Secretary”) shall complete a study of the Harriet  
8           Beecher Stowe House in Brunswick, Maine, to evaluate—

9                   (1) the national significance of the Harriet Bee-  
10           cher Stowe House and surrounding land; and

11                   (2) the suitability and feasibility of designating  
12           the Harriet Beecher Stowe House and surrounding  
13           land as a unit of the National Park System.

14           (b) STUDY GUIDELINES.—In conducting the study  
15           authorized under subsection (a), the Secretary shall use  
16           the criteria for the study of areas for potential inclusion  
17           in the National Park System contained in section 8(c) of  
18           Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)).

19 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

20           Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds  
21           are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary  
22           shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-  
23           sources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources  
24           of the House of Representatives a report containing the

1 findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study  
2 conducted under section 3.

3 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4       There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
5 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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