

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4285

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Area in North Carolina, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 5, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself and Mr. JONES of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Northeastern North Carolina Heritage Area in North Carolina, 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 “Northeastern North
5 Carolina Heritage Area Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY.**

7 The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with
8 appropriate State historic preservation officers, State his-

1 torical societies, and North Carolina’s Northeast Partner-
2 ship, and other appropriate agencies shall conduct a study
3 regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating the
4 study area described in section 3 as the Northeastern
5 North Carolina Heritage Area. The study shall include
6 analysis, documentation, and determination regarding
7 whether the study area—

8 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
9 cultural resources that together represent distinctive
10 aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition,
11 conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and
12 are best managed through partnerships among pub-
13 lic and private entities and by combining diverse and
14 sometime noncontiguous resources and active com-
15 munities;

16 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
17 folklife that are a valuable part of the national story;

18 (3) provides outstanding opportunities to con-
19 serve natural, historic, cultural, or scenic features;

20 (4) provides outstanding recreational and edu-
21 cational opportunities;

22 (5) contains resources important to the identi-
23 fied theme or themes of the study area that retain
24 a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpre-
25 tation;

1 (6) includes residents, business interests, non-
2 profit organizations, and local and State govern-
3 ments that are involved in the planning, have devel-
4 oped a conceptual financial plan that outlines the
5 roles of all participants including the Federal Gov-
6 ernment), and have demonstrated support for the
7 concept of a national heritage area;

8 (7) has a potential management entity to work
9 in partnership with residents, business interests,
10 nonprofit organizations, and local and State govern-
11 ments to develop a national heritage area consistent
12 with continued local and State economic activity;
13 and

14 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
15 ported by the public.

16 **SEC. 3. BOUNDARIES OF THE STUDY AREA.**

17 The study area referred to in section 2 shall be com-
18 prised of the counties of Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Cho-
19 wan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde,
20 Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell,
21 and Washington, North Carolina.

22 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

23 Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which
24 funds are first made available for this Act, the Secretary
25 of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Natural

1 Resources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
2 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
3 a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommenda-
4 tions of the study.

