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105TH CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
{ 105-397

DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION

OCTOBER 9 (legislative day, OCTOBER 2), 1998.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1175]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 1175) to reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission for 10 additional years, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE MEASURE

The purpose of S. 1175 is to extend the authorization for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Committee for ten additional years.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area was established by Congress in 1965. The park consists of 40 miles of the middle Delaware River, and 70,000 acres of land along the river's shores in Western New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania.

The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Advisory Commission (Commission) was established on October 31, 1988 by Public Law 100-573. The Commission provides local governments the opportunity to coordinate local planning with park managers and provides local residents with a voice in the management and operation of the park. The Commission has a number of standing committees that assist with issues facing the Recreation Area.

The Commission consists of two members appointed by the Secretary; two members appointed by each of the governors of New

Jersey and Pennsylvania; and one member chosen by the county administrators from each of the five surrounding New Jersey and Pennsylvania counties. The authorization for the Commission expires in 1998.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 1175 was introduced by Senators Lautenberg and Torricelli on September 15, 1997 and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation held a hearing on S. 1175 on September 17, 1998.

At its business meeting on September 24, 1998, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources ordered S. 1175, favorably reported.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND TABULATION OF VOTES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in open business session on September 24, 1998, by a unanimous voice vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 1175, as described herein.

SUMMARY OF S. 1175

S. 1175 amends Public Law 101-573 to extend the authorization for Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission for an additional ten years.

COST AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

The following estimate of costs of this measure has been provided by the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 25, 1998.

Hon. FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1175, a bill to reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission for 10 additional years.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director.*

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

S. 1175—A bill to reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission for 10 additional years

S. 1175 would extend for an additional 10 years the life of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission. The commission, which advises the National Park Service (NPS) on management of the recreation area, would otherwise expire on October 31, 1998.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1175 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. At present, the NPS provides the advisory commission with minor technical assistance but no financial aid. Based on information obtained from the NPS, CBO expects that this arrangement would continue throughout the additional 10 years of the commission's existence.

S. 1175 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

REGULATORY IMPACT EVALUATION

In compliance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee makes the following evaluation of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out S. 1175. The bill is not a regulatory measure in the sense of imposing Government-established standards of significant economic responsibilities on private individuals and businesses.

No personal information would be collected in administering the program. Therefore, there would be no impact on personal privacy.

Little, if any, additional paperwork would result from enactment of S. 1175, as ordered reported.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

On September 3, 1998, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources requested legislative reports from the Department of the Interior and the Office of Management and Budget setting forth Executive agency recommendations on S. 1175. These reports had not been received at the time the report on S. 1175 was filed. When these reports became available, the Chairman will request that they be printed in the Congressional Record for the advice of the Senate. The testimony of the Department of the Interior at the Subcommittee hearing follows:

STATEMENT OF DESTRY JARVIS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the Department of the Interior on S. 1175, a

bill to reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area's Citizen Advisory Commission for an additional ten years. The Department does not oppose enactment of this bill.

The purpose of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen's Advisory Commission (CAC) is to advise the Secretary of the Interior on issues relating to the management and operation of the National Recreation Area. Without this legislation the current ten-year life of the CAC will expire on October 31, 1998. The bill would have the CAC expire on October 31, 2008.

The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area was established in 1965 as an alternative to the Tocks Island Dam, a project ultimately deauthorized in 1992. The heart of the 70,000-acre recreation area is a 40-mile stretch of the Delaware River that was designated as a unit of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system in 1978. Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is today the 10th most-visited park in the National Park System.

An important role for the Citizen's Advisory Commission has been to actively solicit public input on issues of concern to park visitors, neighbors and partners. The CAC holds quarterly public meetings on issues relating to the management and operation of the recreation area. If the Congress does not reauthorize the CAC, the National Park Service would continue to seek the views of its various constituencies through similar public meetings.

This concludes my prepared remarks. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this legislation.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill S. 1175, as ordered reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

(Public Law 101-573, October 31, 1988)

SEC. 5. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.

The Commission shall terminate on the date that is **[10]** 20 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.