

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2967

To establish the Ralph David Abernathy, Sr. National Historic Site, and  
for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2025

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish the Ralph David Abernathy, Sr. National  
Historic Site, 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 “Ralph David Aber-

5 nathy, Sr. National Historic Site Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. RALPH DAVID ABERNATHY, SR. NATIONAL HIS-**  
7 **TORIC SITE.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

9 (1) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map en-

10 titled “Ralph David Abernathy, Sr. National His-

1       toric Site Proposed Boundary”, numbered P99/  
2       184,019, and dated August 2022.

3               (2) HISTORIC SITE.—The term “Historic Site”  
4       means the Ralph David Abernathy, Sr. National  
5       Historic Site established by subsection (b).

6               (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
7       the Secretary of the Interior.

8               (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
9       of Georgia.

10       (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

11               (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
12       there is established the Ralph David Abernathy, Sr.  
13       National Historic Site in the State of Georgia as a  
14       unit of the National Park System to preserve, pro-  
15       tect, and interpret for the benefit of present and fu-  
16       ture generations—

17                       (A) the site where the Reverend Dr. Aber-  
18               nathy served as pastor during the height of the  
19               modern civil rights movement, the historic West  
20               Hunter Street Baptist Church; and

21                       (B) the role of Dr. Abernathy as an inter-  
22               nationally recognized civil rights leader.

23               (2) DETERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY.—  
24       The Historic Site shall not be established until the  
25       date on which the Secretary determines that a suffi-

1       cient quantity of land and interests in land have  
2       been acquired to constitute a manageable park unit.

3           (3) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after the  
4       date on which the Secretary makes a determination  
5       under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall publish in  
6       the Federal Register notice of the establishment of  
7       the Historic Site.

8           (c) BOUNDARY.—The boundary of the Historic Site  
9       shall be the boundary generally depicted as “Proposed  
10      Boundary” on the Map.

11          (d) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Map shall be on file  
12      and available for public inspection in the appropriate of-  
13      fices of the National Park Service.

14          (e) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—

15           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
16      the Secretary may acquire land and interests in land  
17      within the boundary of the Historic Site by—

18                   (A) donation;

19                   (B) purchase from a willing seller with do-  
20                   nated or appropriated funds; or

21                   (C) exchange.

22           (2) LIMITATION.—Any land or interests in land  
23      owned by the State or a political subdivision of the  
24      State may be acquired for inclusion in the Historic  
25      Site only by donation.

1 (f) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall admin-  
2 ister the Historic Site in accordance with—

3 (1) this section; and

4 (2) the laws generally applicable to units of the  
5 National Park System, including—

6 (A) sections 100101(a), 100751(a),  
7 100752, and 100753 of title 54, United States  
8 Code; and

9 (B) chapters 1003 and 3201 of title 54,  
10 United States Code.

11 (g) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 3 years  
12 after the date on which funds are first made available to  
13 carry out this Act, the Secretary shall complete a manage-  
14 ment plan for the Historic Site in accordance with section  
15 100502 of title 54, United States Code.

16 (h) AGREEMENTS.—Within or outside the boundaries  
17 of the Historic Site, the Secretary may enter into coopera-  
18 tive agreements, leases, or other agreements, as appro-  
19 priate, with the State or other entities to provide and fa-  
20 cilitate interpretive and educational services, administra-  
21 tive support, and technical assistance related to the His-  
22 toric Site, including—

23 (1) the placement of directional and interpretive  
24 signage;

25 (2) exhibits;

- 1 (3) parking and other administrative needs;
- 2 (4) technology-based interpretive devices;
- 3 (5) public interpretation and tours; and
- 4 (6) the preservation of historic and cultural re-
- 5 sources.

