

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5729

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2026

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To authorize direct emergency acquisition flexibilities for the National Park Service for the purpose of retaining, vetting, approving, and expediting contractor approval for the clearing, rebuilding, maintenance, and improvement of the Grand Canyon grounds that have been impacted by the Dragon Bravo Fire.

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 “North Rim Restoration
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) COVERED AREA.—The term “covered area”
9 means the areas within Grand Canyon National
10 Park impacted by the Dragon Bravo Fire.

11 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
12 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
13 rector of the National Park Service.

14 **SEC. 3. EMERGENCY CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any requirement
16 for a Presidential emergency or disaster declaration, the
17 Secretary is authorized to use the emergency acquisition
18 flexibilities under part 18 of title 48, Code of Federal Reg-
19 ulations (and any successor regulations), including the in-
20 creased micro-purchase thresholds, simplified acquisition
21 thresholds, and other higher-level emergency flexibilities,
22 in contracting for the following services within the covered
23 area:

24 (1) Forest management or restoration activities
25 carried out in response to the Dragon Bravo Fire.

1 (2) Rebuilding, planning, development, and de-
2 sign of structures affected by the Dragon Bravo
3 Fire.

4 (3) Improvements to the grounds and struc-
5 tures.

6 (4) Recovery efforts.

7 (5) Any activity listed in section 4(a).

8 (b) PROCESS FOR OTHER SERVICES.—Unless other-
9 wise provided by law or regulation, the authority granted
10 under subsection (a) does not apply to contracts for serv-
11 ices other than those described in paragraphs (1) through
12 (4) of subsection (a).

13 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the Sec-
14 retary begins to use the authorization under subsection
15 (a), and every 180 days thereafter until the date that is
16 180 days after the date described in subsection (e), the
17 Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Natural Re-
18 sources and Oversight and Government Reform of the
19 House of Representatives and the Committees on Energy
20 and Natural Resources and Homeland Security and Gov-
21 ernmental Affairs of the Senate a report on all expendi-
22 tures related to the recovery efforts for the Dragon Bravo
23 Fire, including the following:

24 (1) The expected cost of recovery efforts.

25 (2) Cost expenditures.

1 (3) Cost overruns.

2 (4) Identification of contractors performing the
3 work associated with the recovery from the Dragon
4 Bravo Fire.

5 (5) Any affiliations or conflicts of interest be-
6 tween the contractor and the contracting office at
7 the Grand Canyon National Park or the National
8 Park Service.

9 (6) Any waste, fraud, or abuse detected during
10 the recovery efforts.

11 (7) Any contracts that came in under expected
12 expenses.

13 (8) An estimated time of completion for all
14 projects and full recovery efforts related to the
15 Dragon Bravo Fire.

16 (9) If an extension is needed for this authority
17 to complete projects associated with the Dragon
18 Bravo Fire.

19 (d) EXTENSION.—If, after the date of the enactment
20 of this Act, a new wildfire ignites within the covered area
21 and impacts recovery efforts related to the Dragon Bravo
22 Fire, the Secretary may request a 12-month extension of
23 the authority granted under subsection (a), subject to con-
24 gressional approval.

1 (e) EXPIRATION.—The authority granted under sub-
2 section (a) shall expire on the date that is the earlier of
3 the following:

4 (1) 7 years after the date of the enactment of
5 this Act.

6 (2) The date on which projects and recovery ef-
7 forts within the covered area are completed, as de-
8 termined by the Secretary.

9 **SEC. 4. LIMITED SOLE-SOURCE PROCUREMENT AUTHOR-**
10 **ITY.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding chapter 33 of
12 title 41, United States Code, or any other provision of law
13 relating to the use of competitive procedures for the pro-
14 curement of services, supplies, or construction materials
15 and services, subject to a determination made by the Sec-
16 retary under subsection (b), the Secretary may enter into
17 one or more contracts, on a noncompetitive basis, for the
18 planning, design, repair, construction, reconstruction, re-
19 habilitation, stabilization, replacement, or operation of as-
20 sets supporting the recovery and reopening of the Grand
21 Canyon National Park North Rim, including—

22 (1) employee housing and related facilities;

23 (2) water, wastewater, power, communications,
24 and other utility systems;

1 (3) visitor-facing facilities and infrastructure,
2 including lodging, food service, retail, transportation,
3 and associated public-use facilities; and

4 (4) maintenance, administration, and other
5 back-of-house assets necessary for safe and contin-
6 uous operation of North Rim services.

7 (b) DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary
8 may utilize the authority provided in subsection (a) if the
9 Secretary determines, in writing, that—

10 (1) the concessioner currently holding a valid
11 concession contract for operations at the North Rim
12 of Grand Canyon National Park on the date of en-
13 actment of this Act is uniquely positioned to execute
14 one or more procurement contracts identified under
15 subsection (a) due to the concessioner’s current
16 operational responsibilities, site access, integration
17 with existing concession infrastructure, or continuity
18 needs essential to expedited North Rim recovery;
19 and

20 (2) use of noncompetitive procedures under sub-
21 section (a) with this concessioner is necessary to en-
22 sure public health and safety, protection of park re-
23 sources, or continuity of essential services.

1 (c) EXPIRATION.—The authority granted under sub-
2 section (a) shall expire on the date that is 7 years after
3 the date of enactment of this Act.

4 (d) RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING CONCESSION CON-
5 TRACT.—Any procurement action conducted or contract
6 awarded under this section shall be considered separate
7 from, and shall not modify, amend, or extend the duration
8 of, or provide any leasehold surrender interest or other
9 benefit, under a concession contract issued under section
10 101913 of title 54, United States Code, or related authori-
11 ties.

12 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
13 tion shall be construed to—

14 (1) authorize the award of any concession con-
15 tract or lease without full compliance with applicable
16 concession contracting law; or

17 (2) prevent the Secretary from using competi-
18 tive procedures if the Secretary determines such pro-
19 cedures to be in the best interest of the United
20 States.

Passed the House of Representatives March 16,
2026.

Attest:

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,

Clerk.