

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 9348

To require the Secretary of the Army to include in any final recommendation for a water resources development project of the Corps of Engineers a plan to maintain equivalent levels of access to existing public recreational amenities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2026

Ms. FRIEDMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Army to include in any final recommendation for a water resources development project of the Corps of Engineers a plan to maintain equivalent levels of access to existing public recreational amenities, 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 “Public Access Protec-
5 tion Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that, during construction
3 of a water resources development project of the Corps of
4 Engineers that affects a public recreational amenity, in-
5 cluding a park, a trail, a green space, a recreational water-
6 way, and any other public open space, the Secretary of
7 the Army should—

8 (1) maintain an equivalent level of recreational
9 access to such public recreational amenity;

10 (2) minimize temporary disruptions to such ac-
11 cess through project planning and coordination with
12 affected communities; and

13 (3) provide alternative public access where nec-
14 essary to ensure continued recreational opportunities
15 for the duration of such construction.

16 **SEC. 3. RECREATIONAL ACCESS PRESERVATION PLAN.**

17 To the maximum extent practicable, in carrying out
18 a feasibility study for a water resources development
19 project of the Corps of Engineers, the Secretary shall—

20 (1) review the potential impact of construction
21 of the project on existing public recreational amen-
22 ities, including facilities for hiking, biking, walking,
23 and waterborne recreation; and

24 (2) include in any final recommendation for
25 such project a plan to maintain an equivalent level

1 of access to such amenities during construction of
2 the project.

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