

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 986

To amend the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park Establishment Act to expand the boundary of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in the State of Vermont, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Ms. BALINT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park Establishment Act to expand the boundary of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in the State of Vermont, 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 “Marsh-Billings-Rocke-
5 feller National Historical Park Establishment Act Amend-
6 ments Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. BOUNDARY EXPANSION.**

2 Section 3 of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National
3 Historical Park Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 410vv–1)
4 is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
5 following:

6 “(b) BOUNDARIES; MAP.—

7 “(1) BOUNDARIES.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The boundaries of the
9 park shall be as generally depicted on the map
10 entitled ‘Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National
11 Historical Park, Proposed Boundary Revision’,
12 numbered 456/190,048, and dated August
13 2023.

14 “(B) INCLUSIONS.—The park shall include
15 the following:

16 “(i) A historic zone, including—

17 “(I) the Marsh-Billings-Rocke-
18 feller Mansion;

19 “(II) surrounding buildings; and

20 “(III) a portion of the area
21 known as ‘Mt. Tom’.

22 “(ii) A protection zone, including the
23 area occupied by the Billings Farm and
24 Museum.

25 “(iii) The King Farm, which shall be
26 divided between the historic zone described

1 in clause (i) and the protection zone de-
2 scribed in clause (ii), as determined by the
3 Secretary to be appropriate.

4 “(2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map de-
5 scribed in paragraph (1)(A) shall be on file and
6 available for public inspection in the appropriate of-
7 fices of the National Park Service.”.

8 **SEC. 3. ACQUISITION OF LAND.**

9 Section 4 of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National
10 Historical Park Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 410vv–2)
11 is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and
14 inserting the following:

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire
16 land or an interest in land within the boundary of
17 the park by—

18 “(A) donation;

19 “(B) purchase from a willing seller with
20 donated or appropriated funds;

21 “(C) transfer from a Federal agency; or

22 “(D) exchange.

23 “(2) KING FARM.—Acquisition by the Secretary
24 of the land described in section 3(b)(1)(B)(iii) shall
25 include—

1 “(A) a right of access from the land ac-
2 quired to the park; and

3 “(B) a right of access to the land acquired
4 from the park.”; and

5 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “(3) The
6 Secretary” and inserting the following:

7 “(3) COMMERCIAL OPERATION.—The Sec-
8 retary”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(e) KING FARM.—On acquisition by the Secretary
11 of the land described in section 3(b)(1)(B)(iii), the ac-
12 quired land may be used for—

13 “(1) agricultural and forestry purposes, includ-
14 ing the growing and harvesting of crops and trees,
15 animal husbandry, and other agricultural operations
16 customary in the State of Vermont;

17 “(2) conservation purposes in a manner that
18 preserves the historic character of a working farm
19 and forest; and

20 “(3) educational purposes relating to agri-
21 culture, forestry, and conservation activities, includ-
22 ing the study of natural history.”.

23 **SEC. 4. SCENIC ZONE.**

24 Section 5(a) of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Na-
25 tional Historical Park Establishment Act (16 U.S.C.

1 410vv–3(a)) is amended by striking “‘Marsh-Billings-
2 Rockefeller National Historical Park Scenic Zone Map’
3 and dated November 19, 1991” and inserting “‘Marsh-
4 Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, Proposed
5 Boundary Revision’, numbered 456/190,048, and dated
6 August 2023”.

7 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STEWARDSHIP INSTI-
8 TUTE.**

9 The Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical
10 Park Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 410vv et seq.) is
11 amended—

12 (1) by redesignating sections 6 through 10 as
13 sections 7 through 11, respectively; and

14 (2) by inserting after section 5 the following:

15 **“SEC. 6. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STEWARDSHIP INSTI-
16 TUTE.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established at the park
18 the National Park Service Stewardship Institute (referred
19 to in this Act as the ‘Institute’).

20 “(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Institute
21 are—

22 “(1) to highlight and encourage the advance-
23 ment of stewardship practices through workshops,
24 public programs, learning opportunities, and similar
25 programming;

1 “(2) to create opportunities within the National
2 Park Service to identify and share innovation
3 through research, evaluation, and dialogue; and

4 “(3) to identify and exchange best practices and
5 enhance leadership capacity, partnership develop-
6 ment, and community engagement in the fields of
7 conservation and resource stewardship.

8 “(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Institute shall be man-
9 aged as a program of the park.”.

○