

TO RENAME THE HOMESTEAD NATIONAL MONUMENT OF
AMERICA NEAR BEATRICE, NEBRASKA, AS THE HOME-
STEAD NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

NOVEMBER 15, 2019.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRIJALVA, from the Committee on Natural Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1472]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1472) to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 1472 is to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The Homestead Act of 1862¹ enticed Americans to move west by granting 160 acres of land to claimants in exchange for a small fee and five years of either continuous residence or cultivating and improving the land. Congress authorized the Homestead National Monument of America² in 1936 following the acquisition of the

¹Act of May 20, 1862, ch. 75, 12 Stat. 392, <https://uscode.house.gov/statviewer.htm?volume=12&page=392>.

²Act of Mar. 19, 1936, Pub. L. No. 74-480, 49 Stat. 1184, <https://uscode.house.gov/statviewer.htm?volume=49&page=1184> (codified at 16 U.S.C. § 450u).

Daniel Freeman homestead, one of the first sites successfully claimed under the Homestead Act of 1862.³

Congress authorized adding the Freeman School, an original one-room prairie schoolhouse, to the monument in 1970.⁴ The site has since expanded to include the Homestead Heritage Center and 100 acres of restored tallgrass prairie.⁵

The current name of the site does not fit the typical National Park Service nomenclature. By renaming the site as the Homestead National Historical Park, the bill makes the name one that is a standard National Park Service designation and appropriate for a large unit that has complex physical resources.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 1472 was introduced on February 28, 2019, by Representative Adrian Smith (R-NE). The bill was referred solely to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. On May 22, 2019, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On September 25, 2019, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

HEARINGS

For the purposes of section 103(i) of H. Res. 6 of the 116th Congress—the following hearing was used to develop or consider H.R. 1472: legislative hearing by the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held on May 22, 2019.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

³*The First Homesteader*, Nat'l Park Serv., <https://www.nps.gov/home/learn/historyculture/firsthomesteader.htm> (last updated Apr. 10, 2015).

⁴Act of Sept. 25, 1970, Pub. L. No. 91-411, 84 Stat. 863, <https://uscode.house.gov/statviewer.htm?volume=84&page=863>.

⁵*See, e.g.*, Homestead National Monument of America Additions Act, Pub. L. No. 107-332, 116 Stat. 2871 (2002), <https://uscode.house.gov/statviewer.htm?volume=116&page=2871>.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, October 7, 2019.

Hon. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 1472, a bill to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park.

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

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 1472, a bill to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on September 25, 2019			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2024	2020-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	*
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 1472 would change the name of the Homestead National Monument of America in Nebraska to the Homestead National Historical Park. Based on the cost of similar efforts, CBO estimates that the cost to revise federal maps and signs to reflect the new name would be insignificant. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is David Hughes. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goals and objectives of this bill are to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e),

9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

ACT OF MARCH 19, 1936

AN ACT To establish The Homestead National Monument of America in Gage County, Nebraska

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to acquire, on behalf of the United States, by gift, purchase, or condemnation, the south half of the northwest quarter, the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter, and the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter section 26, township 4 north, range 5 east, of the sixth principal meridian, Gage County, Nebraska, the same being the first homestead entered upon under the General Homestead Act of May 20, 1862, by Daniel Freeman, and that when so acquired, the said area be [designated "The Homestead National Monument of America."] designated the "Homestead National Historical Park".

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SUPPLEMENTAL, MINORITY, ADDITIONAL, OR DISSENTING VIEWS

None.