

JOHN P. PARKER HOUSE STUDY ACT

DECEMBER 7, 2022.—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. 6799]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 6799) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the John P. Parker House in Ripley, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park System, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 6799 is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the John P. Parker House in Ripley, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park System.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 6799 would direct the U.S. Department of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the John P. Parker House in Ripley, Ohio, which was recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1997. The legislation would require the National Park Service (NPS) to conduct a special resource study to help determine the feasibility of the Parker house being added to the National Park System.

A reconnaissance survey completed in 2020 examined the national significance, suitability, feasibility, and level of NPS management required. It determined that further evaluation through a congressionally authorized special resource study is warranted. The special resource study will further evaluate the site for inclusion in

the National Park System; invite public involvement in the study process; and develop potential management alternatives for the John P. Parker House and Museum.

As described by *The Highland County Press*:

John P. Parker was born into slavery in 1827. Initially living in Norfolk, Virginia, Parker was bought and sold multiple times before securing his freedom in 1845. Following his liberation, Parker moved to Cincinnati, OH, and ultimately settled in the Village of Ripley in Brown County [, Ohio]. Parker went on to own and operate a successful metal foundry, becoming one of the first African Americans to receive patents for his inventions.

In addition to his successful business, Parker became an active member of the Underground Railroad.¹

The Parker house was a crucial site in shepherding enslaved people to their freedom on the Underground Railroad. As described by the Office of U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R–OH):

Historical records attribute Parker with helping secure the freedom of hundreds of enslaved African Americans through the Underground Railroad. Parker worked with abolitionist John Rankin, and together they supported a robust abolitionist movement on the Ohio River. The John P. Parker home is located on North Front Street in Ripley and has operated under the John P. Parker Historical Society since 1996.²

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 6799 was introduced on February 18, 2022, by Representative Brad R. Wenstrup (R–OH). 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 July 14, 2022, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On July 20, 2022, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged by unanimous consent. No amendments were offered, and the bill was adopted and ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

HEARINGS

For the purposes of clause 3(c)(6) of House rule XIII, the following hearing was used to develop or consider this measure: hearing by the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held on July 14, 2022.

¹ *Wenstrup to Testify on John P. Parker House Before National Parks Committee*, HIGHLAND CNTY. PRESS (July 12, 2022), <https://highlandcountypress.com/Content/In-The-News/In-The-News/Article/Wenstrup-to-testify-on-John-P-Parker-House-before-national-parks-committee/2/20/81688>.

² Office of Rob Portman, U.S. Senator, Press Release, Portman, Brown, Wenstrup, Beatty Introduce Bill to Study Addition of John P. Parker House to National Park System (Feb. 22, 2022), <https://www.portman.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/portman-brown-wenstrup-beatty-introduce-bill-study-addition-john-p-parker>.

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, as well as clause 3(d) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has received the following materials for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, November 14, 2022.

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 table summarizing estimated budgetary effects and mandates information for some of the legislation that has been ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources during the 117th Congress.

If you wish further details, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact for each estimate is listed on the enclosed table.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

SUMMARY ESTIMATES OF LEGISLATION ORDERED REPORTED

The Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the Congressional Budget Office, to the extent practicable, to prepare estimates of the budgetary effects of legislation ordered reported by Congressional authorizing committees. In order to provide the Congress with as much information as possible, the attached table summarizes information about the estimated direct spending and revenue effects of some of the legislation that has been ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources during the 117th Congress. The legislation listed in this table generally would have small effects, if any, on direct spending or revenues, CBO estimates. Where possible, the table also provides information about the legislation's estimated effects on spending subject to appropriation and on intergovernmental and private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

ESTIMATED BUDGETARY EFFECTS AND MANDATES INFORMATION

Bill Number	Title	Status	Last Action	Budget Function	Direct Spending, 2023-2032	Revenues, 2023-2032	Spending Subject to Appropriation, 2023-2027	Pay-As-You-Go Procedures Apply?	Increases On-Budget Deficits Beginning in 2033?	Mandates	Contact
H.R. 3600 ...	Route 66 National Historic Trail Designation Act.	Ordered reported.	11/17/21	300	0	0	Not estimated	No	No	No	Madeleine Fox
H.R. 3600 ...	H.R. 3600 would designate the 2,400 miles of U.S. Highway 66 from Illinois to California as the Route 66 National Historic Trail. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3600 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.										
H.R. 4648 ...	Cane River Creole National Historical Park Boundary Modification Act.	Ordered reported.	11/17/21	300	0	0	Not estimated	No	No	No	Madeleine Fox
H.R. 4648 ...	H.R. 4648 would add about 46 acres to the Cane River Creole National Historical Park in Louisiana. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4648 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.										
H.R. 4690 ...	Sustaining America's Fisheries for the Future Act of 2021.	Ordered reported.	09/29/22	300	Between -\$500,000 and zero	0	Not estimated	Yes	No	No	Aurora Swanson
H.R. 4690 ...	H.R. 4690 would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts totaling \$4.1 billion over the 2023-2027 period and \$0.8 billion after 2027 to mitigate damage to fish populations from climate change, overfishing, oil spills, and natural disasters. The bill also would authorize grant programs and funding assistance to fishing communities that experience economic loss from damaged fisheries. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4690 would have an insignificant effect on direct spending and no effect on revenues over the 2023-2032 period. The legislation would authorize activities that would not necessarily be covered by the authorized appropriations; thus, CBO has not estimated the full discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.										
H.R. 5444 ...	Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act.	Ordered reported.	06/15/22	500	0	0	Not estimated	No	No	No	Garrett Quemmeville
H.R. 5444 ...	H.R. 5444 would establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies to study and report on the lasting effects of policies that placed American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children in boarding schools. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 5444 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.										
H.R. 6438 ...	Dearfield Study Act	Ordered reported.	07/20/22	300	0	0	Not estimated	No	No	No	Madeleine Fox
H.R. 6438 ...	H.R. 6438 would require the Department of the Interior to study and report on the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Dearfield area in Colorado as a unit of the National Park System. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6438 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.										
H.R. 6442 ...	FACTS Act	Ordered reported.	07/13/22	300	0	0	Not estimated	No	No	No	Madeleine Fox
H.R. 6442 ...	H.R. 6442 would require the Department of the Interior to study and report on the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Dearfield area in Colorado as a unit of the National Park System. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6442 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.										

H.R. 6799	John P. Parker House Study Act.	Ordered re-ported.	07/20/22	300	0	Not estimated	No	No	Madeleine Fox
H.R. 6442	authorize the National Park Service to enter into agreements with tribal governments, public universities, public utilities, and quasi-governmental entities to cooperatively manage adjacent parks. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6442 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.								
H.R. 6799	would require the Department of the Interior to study and report on the suitability and feasibility of establishing the John P. Parker House in Ohio as a unit of the National Park System. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 6799 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.								
H.R. 7496	a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install a plaque at the peak of Ram Head in the Virgin Islands National Park on St. John, United States Virgin Islands, to commemorate the slave rebellion that began on St. John in 1733.	Ordered re-ported.	07/13/22	300	0	Not estimated	No	No	Madeleine Fox
H.R. 7496	would direct the Department of the Interior to install a plaque at the peak of Ram Head in the United States Virgin Islands commemorating the 1733 slave rebellion. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 7496 would not affect direct spending or revenues. CBO has not estimated the discretionary costs of implementing the bill. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.								

The Committee adopts as its own any finalized additional materials of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office regarding the bill, should such materials be made available before House passage of the bill.

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 direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the John P. Parker House in Ripley, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park System.

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

According to CBO, this bill contains no unfunded mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

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

If enacted, this bill would make no changes to existing law.

SUPPLEMENTAL, MINORITY, ADDITIONAL, OR DISSENTING VIEWS

None.