

VALLEY FORGE PARK REALIGNMENT PERMIT AND
PROMISE ACT

DECEMBER 12, 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. 7952]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 7952) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue a right-of-way permit with respect to a natural gas distribution pipeline within Valley Forge National Historical Park, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Valley Forge Park Realignment Permit and Promise Act”.

SEC. 2. RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMIT FOR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION MAIN SEGMENT AT VALLEY FORGE NHP.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may issue a right-of-way permit pursuant to part 14 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act), for the covered main segment if the covered main segment is relocated to a proposed realignment of Valley Forge Park Road and North Gulph Road within the Park.

(b) **SCOPE OF AUTHORITY.**—The authority to grant a right-of-way permit under subsection (a) shall apply only to the covered main segment and shall not apply to any other part of the natural gas distribution main system or any other pipeline system within the Park.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **COVERED MAIN SEGMENT.**—The term “covered main segment” means the portions of the natural gas distribution main (including all appurtenances used in the operation of such main) within the Park—

(A) existing on the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) that are located under, along, or adjacent to the segments of North Gulph Road and Valley Forge Park Road (SR3039 and SR0023 respectively, as those roads were aligned on January 21, 2022) that are between—

- (i) the intersection of North Gulph Road with Richards Road; and
 - (ii) a point on Valley Forge Park Road located 500 feet northwest of its intersection with County Line Road.
- (2) PARK.—The term “Park” means Valley Forge National Historical Park.
- (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 7952 is to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue a right-of-way permit with respect to a natural gas distribution pipeline within Valley Forge National Historical Park.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

H.R. 7952 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue a right-of-way permit to allow the movement of the natural gas pipeline segment from its current position to one currently proposed under a new roadbed being constructed east of the current road. Specifically, the areas of pipeline permitted to be moved include the stretch starting at the intersection of North Gulph Road with Richards Road and the point on Valley Forge Park Road located 500 feet northwest of its intersection with County Line Road.

The right-of-way permit will not allow for the expansion, upgrade, or improvement of the covered pipeline segment except for the safe operation and maintenance of the pipeline as may be required by law.

As part of a broader effort to develop and enhance the area around Valley Forge National Historic Park, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is working to realign and repave a road that runs through the Park’s entrance. Part of the project involves moving the current utilities under the current roadbed to the new roadbed. While the National Park Service (NPS) can permit the movement of other utilities—like electric or broadband—they are barred by statute from permitting the movement of the segment of the natural gas pipeline also under the current roadbed. If not rectified and permitted to move, the project could be further delayed, costing time and resources.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 7952 was introduced on June 7, 2022, by Representative Madeleine Dean (D-PA). 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 June 14, 2022, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On December 8, 2022, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged by unanimous consent. Chair Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ) offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, 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 June 14, 2022.

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:

Legislation Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives announces bills that will be considered under suspension of the rules in that chamber. Under suspension, floor debate is limited, all floor amendments are prohibited, points of order against the bill are waived, and final passage requires a two-thirds majority vote.

At the request of the Majority Leader and the House Committee on the Budget, CBO estimates the effects of those bills on direct spending and revenues. CBO has limited time to review the legislation before consideration. Although it is possible in most cases to determine whether the legislation would affect direct spending or revenues, time may be insufficient to estimate the magnitude of those effects. If CBO has prepared estimates for similar or identical legislation, a more detailed assessment of budgetary effects, including effects on spending subject to appropriation, may be included.

Effects on Direct Spending and Revenues of Legislation Considered Under Suspension of the Rules in the House of Representatives
Week of December 12, 2022

Bill Number	Title	Effect on Direct Spending	Effect on Revenues	Additional Information on Direct Spending and Revenue Effects	Link to Published Estimates	Suspension Bill Text at docs.house.gov
H.R. 1082	Sam's Law	None	Increase by less than \$500K			https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr1082-SUS.pdf
H.R. 2551	Bonneville Shoreline Trail Advancement Act	None	None		https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58067	https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr2551-SUS.pdf
H.R. 5715	To reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, as amended	Increase by at least \$500K	None	Increase direct spending by \$1 million over the 2023-2032 period		https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr5715-SUS.pdf
H.R. 6427	Red River National Wildlife Refuge Boundary Modification Act, as amended	None	None			https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr6427-SUS.pdf
H.R. 6611	To authorize the Embassy of France in Washington, DC, to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor the extraordinary contributions of Jean Monnet to restoring peace between European nations and establishing the European Union, and for other purposes, as amended	Reduce by less than \$500K	None			https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr6611-SUS.pdf
H.R. 7077	Empowering the U.S. Fire Administration Act	None	None		https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58563	https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr7077-SUS.pdf
H.R. 7496	To direct the Secretary of the Interior to install a plaque at the peak of Barn 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	None	None		https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58772	https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr7496-SUS.pdf
H.R. 7952	Valley Forge Park Realignment Permit and Promise Act	Reduce by less than \$500K	None			https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr7952-SUS.pdf
S. 7	A bill to make a technical amendment to the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes	None	None			https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr7-SUS.pdf
S. 314	Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Repeal Act	None	None		https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57071	https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr314-SUS.pdf
S. 789	RESPECT Act	None	None		https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57122	https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr789-SUS.pdf
S. 1466	Saline Lake Ecosystems in the Great Basin States Program Act	None	None			https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr1466-SUS.pdf
S. 2991	Countering Human Trafficking Act of 2022	Increase by less than \$500K	None		https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57773	https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr2991-SUS.pdf
S. 5060	Paul D. Wellstone Building Act of 2022	None	None			https://docs.house.gov/billshtml/eh/20221212/BILLS-117hr5060-SUS.pdf

Source: Congressional Budget Office

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 authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue a right-of-way permit with respect to a natural gas distribution pipeline within Valley Forge 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

An estimate of federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act was not made available to the Committee in time for the filing of this report. The Chair of the Committee shall cause such estimate to be printed in the *Congressional Record* upon its receipt by the Committee, if such estimate is not publicly available on the Congressional Budget Office website.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

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

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.