

Union Calendar No. 400

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4622

[Report No. 107-653, Part I]

To require Federal land managers to support, and to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with, designated gateway communities, to improve the ability of gateway communities to participate in Federal land management planning conducted by the Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior, and to respond to the impacts of the public use of the Federal lands administered by these agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Additional sponsors: Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. REHBERG, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. OTTER, Mr. HERGER, Ms. DUNN, and Mr. TANCREDO

SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Reported from the Committee on Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than September 11, 2002

SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To require Federal land managers to support, and to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with, designated gateway communities, to improve the ability of gateway communities to participate in Federal land management planning conducted by the Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior, and to respond to the impacts of the public use of the Federal lands administered by these agencies, 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 “Gateway Communities*
5 *Cooperation Act of 2002”.*

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FEDERAL**
7 **LAND MANAGERS AND GATEWAY COMMU-**
8 **NITIES TO SUPPORT COMPATIBLE LAND MAN-**
9 **AGEMENT OF BOTH FEDERAL AND ADJACENT**
10 **LANDS.**

11 *(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:*

12 *(1) Communities that are adjacent to or near*
13 *Federal lands, including units of the National Park*
14 *System, units of the National Wildlife Refuge System,*
15 *units of the National Forest System, and lands ad-*

1 *ministered by the Bureau of Land Management, are*
2 *vitally impacted by the management and public use*
3 *of these Federal lands.*

4 (2) *These communities, commonly known as*
5 *gateway communities, fulfill an integral part in the*
6 *mission of the Federal lands by providing necessary*
7 *services, such as schools, roads, search and rescue,*
8 *emergency, medical, provisioning, logistical support,*
9 *living quarters, and drinking water and sanitary sys-*
10 *tems, for both visitors to the Federal lands and em-*
11 *ployees of Federal land management agencies.*

12 (3) *Provision of these vital services by gateway*
13 *communities is an essential ingredient for a meaning-*
14 *ful and enjoyable experience by visitors to the Federal*
15 *lands because Federal land management agencies are*
16 *unable to provide, or are prevented from providing,*
17 *these services.*

18 (4) *Gateway communities serve as an entry*
19 *point for persons who visit the Federal lands and are*
20 *ideal for establishment of visitor services, including*
21 *lodging, food service, fuel and auto repairs, emergency*
22 *services, and visitor information.*

23 (5) *Development in these gateway communities*
24 *affect the management and protection of these Federal*
25 *lands, depending on the extent to which advance*

1 *planning for the local development is coordinated be-*
2 *tween the communities and Federal land managers.*

3 (6) *The planning and management decisions of*
4 *Federal land managers can have unintended con-*
5 *sequences for gateway communities and the Federal*
6 *lands, when the decisions are not adequately commu-*
7 *nicated to, or coordinated with, the elected officials*
8 *and residents of gateway communities.*

9 (7) *Experts in land management planning are*
10 *available to Federal land managers, but persons with*
11 *technical planning skills are often not readily avail-*
12 *able to gateway communities, particularly small gate-*
13 *way communities.*

14 (8) *Gateway communities are often affected by*
15 *the policies and actions of several Federal land agen-*
16 *cies and both the communities and the agencies would*
17 *benefit from greater interagency coordination of those*
18 *policies and actions.*

19 (9) *Persuading gateway communities to make*
20 *decisions and undertake actions in their communities*
21 *that would also be in the best interest of the Federal*
22 *lands is most likely to occur when such decision-*
23 *making and actions are built upon a foundation of*
24 *cooperation and coordination.*

1 **(b) PURPOSE.**—*It is the purpose of this Act to require*
2 *Federal land managers to communicate, coordinate, and co-*
3 *operate with gateway communities in order to—*

4 (1) *improve the relationships among Federal*
5 *land managers, elected officials, and residents of gate-*
6 *way communities;*

7 (2) *enhance the facilities and services in gateway*
8 *communities available to visitors to Federal lands,*
9 *when compatible with the management of these lands;*
10 *and*

11 (3) *result in better local land use planning and*
12 *decisions by Federal land managers.*

13 **(c) DEFINITIONS.**—*In this section:*

14 (1) **GATEWAY COMMUNITY.**—*The term “gateway*
15 *community” means a county, city, town, village, or*
16 *other subdivision of a State, or a federally recognized*
17 *American Indian tribe or Alaska Native village,*
18 *that—*

19 (A) *is incorporated or recognized in a coun-*
20 *ty or regional land use plan; and*

21 (B) *a Federal land manager (or the head of*
22 *the tourism office for the State) determines is*
23 *significantly affected economically, socially, or*
24 *environmentally by planning and management*

1 *decisions regarding Federal lands administered*
2 *by that Federal land manager.*

3 (2) *FEDERAL LAND AGENCIES.*—*The term “Fed-*
4 *eral land agencies” means the National Park Service,*
5 *United States Forest Service, United States Fish and*
6 *Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Manage-*
7 *ment.*

8 (3) *FEDERAL LAND MANAGER.*—*The term “Fed-*
9 *eral land manager” means—*

10 (A) *the superintendent of a unit of the Na-*
11 *tional Park System;*

12 (B) *the manager of a national wildlife ref-*
13 *uge;*

14 (C) *the field office manager of a Bureau of*
15 *Land Management area; or*

16 (D) *the supervisor of a unit of the National*
17 *Forest System.*

18 (d) *PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL PLANNING AND LAND*
19 *USE.*—

20 (1) *PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING.*—*The Federal*
21 *land agencies shall provide for meaningful public in-*
22 *volvement at the earliest possible time by elected and*
23 *appointed officials of governments of local gateway*
24 *communities in the development of land use plans,*
25 *programs, land use regulations, land use decisions,*

1 *transportation plans, general management plans, and*
2 *any other plans, decisions, projects, or policies for*
3 *Federal public lands under the jurisdiction of these*
4 *agencies that will have a significant impact on these*
5 *gateway communities. To facilitate such involvement,*
6 *the Federal land agencies shall provide these officials,*
7 *at the earliest possible time, with a summary in non-*
8 *technical language of the assumptions, purposes,*
9 *goals, and objectives of such a plan, decision, project,*
10 *or policy and a description of any anticipated sig-*
11 *nificant impact of the plan, decision, or policy on*
12 *gateway communities.*

13 (2) *EARLY NOTICE OF PROPOSED DECISIONS.—*
14 *To the extent practicable, the Federal land agencies*
15 *shall provide local gateway communities with early*
16 *public notice of proposed decisions of these agencies*
17 *that may have a significant impact on gateway com-*
18 *munities.*

19 (3) *TRAINING SESSIONS.—The Federal land*
20 *agencies shall offer training sessions for elected and*
21 *appointed officials of gateway communities at which*
22 *such officials can obtain a better understanding of—*

23 (A) *agency planning processes; and*

24 (B) *the methods by which they can partici-*
25 *pate most meaningfully in the development of the*

1 *agency plans, decisions, and policies referred to*
2 *in paragraph (1).*

3 (4) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—At the request of*
4 *the government of a gateway community, a Federal*
5 *land agency shall assign, to the extent practicable, an*
6 *agency employee or contractor to work with the com-*
7 *munity to develop data and analysis relevant to the*
8 *preparation of agency plans, decisions, and policies*
9 *referred to in paragraph (1).*

10 (5) *REVIEW OF FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT*
11 *PLANNING.—At the request of a gateway community,*
12 *and to the extent practicable, a Federal land manager*
13 *shall assist the gateway community to conduct a re-*
14 *view of land use, management, or transportation*
15 *plans of the Federal land manager likely to affect the*
16 *gateway community.*

17 (6) *COORDINATION OF LAND USE.—To the extent*
18 *consistent with the laws governing the administration*
19 *of the Federal public lands, a Federal land manager*
20 *may enter into a cooperative agreement with a gate-*
21 *way community to provide for coordination*
22 *between—*

23 (A) *the land use inventory, planning, and*
24 *management activities for the Federal lands ad-*
25 *ministered by the Federal land manager; and*

1 (B) the land use planning and management
2 activities of other Federal agencies, agencies of
3 the State in which the Federal lands are located,
4 and local and tribal governments in the vicinity
5 of the Federal lands.

6 (7) *INTERAGENCY COOPERATION AND COORDINA-*
7 *TION.—To the extent practicable, when the plans and*
8 *activities of two or more Federal land agencies are*
9 *anticipated to have a significant impact on a gate-*
10 *way community, the Federal land agencies involved*
11 *shall consolidate and coordinate their plans and plan-*
12 *ning processes to facilitate the participation of the*
13 *gateway community in the planning processes.*

14 (8) *TREATMENT AS COOPERATING AGENCIES.—*
15 *When a proposed action is determined to require the*
16 *preparation of an environmental impact statement,*
17 *the Federal land agencies shall, as soon as prac-*
18 *ticable, but not later than the scoping process, ac-*
19 *tively solicit the participation of gateway commu-*
20 *nities as cooperating agencies under the National En-*
21 *vironmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et*
22 *seq.).*

23 (e) *GRANTS TO ASSIST GATEWAY COMMUNITIES.—*

24 (1) *GRANTS AUTHORIZED; PURPOSES.—A Fed-*
25 *eral land manager may make grants to an eligible*

1 *gateway community to enable the gateway*
2 *community—*

3 *(A) to participate in Federal land planning*
4 *or management processes;*

5 *(B) to obtain professional land use or trans-*
6 *portation planning assistance necessary as a re-*
7 *sult of Federal action;*

8 *(C) to address and resolve public infrastruc-*
9 *ture impacts that are identified through these*
10 *processes as a likely result of the Federal land*
11 *management decisions and for which sufficient*
12 *funds are not otherwise available; and*

13 *(D) to provide public information and in-*
14 *terpretive services about the Federal lands ad-*
15 *ministered by the Federal land manager and the*
16 *gateway community.*

17 *(2) ELIGIBLE GATEWAY COMMUNITIES.—To be*
18 *eligible for a grant under this subsection, a gateway*
19 *community may not have a population in excess of*
20 *10,000 persons.*

21 *(f) FUNDING SOURCES.—*

22 *(1) GENERAL AGENCY FUNDS.—A Federal land*
23 *agency may use amounts available for the general op-*
24 *eration of the agency to provide funds to Federal land*

1 *managers of that agency to make grants under sub-*
2 *section (e).*

3 (2) *OTHER PLANNING OR PROJECT DEVELOP-*
4 *MENT FUNDS.—Funds available to a Federal land*
5 *manager for planning, construction, or project devel-*
6 *opment may also be used to fund programs under*
7 *subsection (d) and make grants under subsection (e).*

8 (3) *COMBINATION OF FUNDS.—Federal land*
9 *managers from different Federal land agencies may*
10 *combine financial resources to make grants under*
11 *subsection (e).*

Union Calendar No. 400

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4622

[Report No. 107-653, Part I]

A BILL

To require Federal land managers to support, and to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with, designated gateway communities, to improve the ability of gateway communities to participate in Federal land management planning conducted by the Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior, and to respond to the impacts of the public use of the Federal lands administered by these agencies, and for other purposes.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Reported from the Committee on Resources with an amendment

SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than September 11, 2002

SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed