

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1207

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish and operate a visitor facility to fulfill the purposes of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2011

Mr. SABLAN (for himself, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. HONDA, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. CAPPES, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BOREN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. PIERLUISI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish and operate a visitor facility to fulfill the purposes of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, 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 “Marianas Trench Ma-
5 rine National Monument Visitor Facility Authorization
6 Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) The terms “Marine National Monument” or
4 “monument” mean the Marianas Trench Marine
5 National Monument established by the President by
6 a proclamation dated January 6, 2009.

7 (2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
8 of the Interior.

9 **SEC. 3. MARIANAS TRENCH MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT**
10 **VISITOR FACILITY.**

11 (a) VISITOR FACILITY AUTHORIZATION.—The Sec-
12 retary is authorized to construct a multipurpose visitor fa-
13 cility in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
14 lands for the interpretation and public education and en-
15 joyment of the marine environment within the boundaries
16 of the Marine National Monument.

17 (b) VISITOR FACILITY LOCATION AND DESCRIP-
18 TION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall locate
20 the visitor facility authorized under subsection (a) in
21 the Northern Mariana Islands at a location that is—

22 (A) on land that is under the control of the
23 Federal Government on the date of enactment
24 of this Act and available for such use, or that
25 is made available to the Federal Government

1 after such date for such use, at no additional
2 lease cost to the Federal Government; and

3 (B) suitable to fulfill the purposes of this
4 Act.

5 (2) COMPONENTS OF VISITOR FACILITY.—The
6 facility authorized under subsection (a) shall in-
7 clude—

8 (A) adequate space for permanent and
9 temporary exhibits depicting the biological, geo-
10 logical, archaeological, cultural, and recreational
11 heritage of the monument;

12 (B) a venue for public education and inter-
13 preitive programs relevant to the natural, cul-
14 tural, and aesthetic resources of the monument,
15 including formal classroom space to provide op-
16 portunities for research, training, and formal
17 education regarding the monument;

18 (C) a location to highlight the importance
19 of the marine environment and the resources of
20 the monument to the people and culture of the
21 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
22 lands and other indigenous people and cultures
23 of the Western Pacific Ocean Basin;

24 (D) a location to provide information to
25 the general public about natural resources,

1 parks, museums, cultural resources, opportuni-
2 ties for wildlife-dependent outdoor recreation,
3 and travel within the Commonwealth of the
4 Northern Mariana Islands that provide opportu-
5 nities for the visiting public to actively or pas-
6 sively experience the monument and to gain
7 greater awareness and appreciation of the re-
8 sources therein;

9 (E) sufficient visitor amenities including
10 restrooms, public telephones, drinking water,
11 and other basic facilities; and

12 (F) administrative office space sufficient to
13 fulfill the management obligations and respon-
14 sibilities of the Secretary and other Federal
15 agencies as specified in the monument's ena-
16 bling proclamation.

17 **SEC. 4. DONATIONS.**

18 For the purposes of the planning, construction, and
19 operation of the visitor facility authorized under section
20 3 of this Act, the Secretary may accept, retain, and expend
21 donations of funds, and use property or services donated
22 from private persons and entities or from public entities.

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