

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3054

To require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of significant civil rights sites.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 14, 2016

Mr. COCHRAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of significant civil rights sites.

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 “Preserving Civil Rights
5 Heritage Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY OF SIGNIFICANT CIVIL**
7 **RIGHTS SITES.**

8 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred
9 to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a spe-

1 cial resource study of significant civil rights sites, includ-
2 ing—

3 (1) the home of the late civil rights activist
4 Medgar Evers, located at 2332 Margaret Walker
5 Alexander Drive, Jackson, Mississippi;

6 (2) the Tallahatchie County Courthouse, located
7 at 100 North Court Street, Sumner, Mississippi;

8 (3) the site of Bryant's Store, located at the
9 intersection of County Road 518 and County Road
10 24, Money, Mississippi;

11 (4) the site of the former office of Dr. Gilbert
12 Mason, Sr., located at 670 Division Street, Biloxi,
13 Mississippi; and

14 (5) the Old Neshoba County Jail, located at
15 422 Myrtle Avenue, East, Philadelphia, Mississippi.

16 (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-
17 section (a), the Secretary shall—

18 (1) evaluate the national significance of each
19 site;

20 (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of
21 designating each site as a unit of the National Park
22 System;

23 (3)(A) take into consideration other alternatives
24 for preservation, protection, and interpretation of
25 each site by—

1 (i) Federal, State, or local governmental
2 entities; or

3 (ii) private or nonprofit organizations; and

4 (B) identify cost estimates for any Federal ac-
5 quisition, development, interpretation, operation, and
6 maintenance associated with the alternatives;

7 (4) consult with interested Federal, State, and
8 local governmental entities, private and nonprofit or-
9 ganizations, and other individuals;

10 (5) determine the effect of the designation of a
11 site as a unit of the National Park System on—

12 (A) existing commercial and recreational
13 uses; and

14 (B) State and local governments to man-
15 age those uses; and

16 (6) identify any authorities, including con-
17 demnation, that will compel or permit the Secretary
18 to influence or participate in local land use decisions
19 (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal
20 land if a site is designated a unit of the National
21 Park System.

22 (c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study under subsection
23 (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 100507
24 of title 54, United States Code.

1 (d) STUDY RESULTS.—Not later than 3 years after
2 the date on which funds are initially made available for
3 the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit
4 to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of
5 Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Nat-
6 ural Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

7 (1) the results of the study; and

8 (2) any relevant conclusions and recommenda-
9 tions of the Secretary.

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