

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3511

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

JULY 31, 2009

Mr. SABLAN 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 2009”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

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

5 (2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
6 of the Interior.

7 **SEC. 3. MARIANAS TRENCH MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT**
8 **VISITOR FACILITY.**

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

15 (b) VISITOR FACILITY LOCATION AND DESCRIP-
16 TION.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall locate
18 the visitor facility authorized under subsection (a) in
19 the Northern Mariana Islands at a location suitable
20 to fulfill the purposes of this Act.

21 (2) COMPONENTS OF VISITOR FACILITY.—The
22 facility authorized under subsection (a) shall in-
23 clude—

24 (A) adequate space for permanent and
25 temporary exhibits depicting the biological, geo-

1 logical, archaeological, cultural, and recreational
2 heritage of the monument;

3 (B) a venue for public education and inter-
4 pretive programs relevant to the natural, cul-
5 tural, and aesthetic resources of the monument,
6 including formal classroom space to provide op-
7 portunities for research, training, and formal
8 education regarding the monument;

9 (C) a location to highlight the importance
10 of the marine environment and the resources of
11 the monument to the people and culture of the
12 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
13 lands and other indigenous people and cultures
14 of the Western Pacific Ocean Basin;

15 (D) a location to provide information to
16 the general public about natural resources,
17 parks, museums, cultural resources, opportuni-
18 ties for wildlife-dependent outdoor recreation,
19 and travel within the Commonwealth of the
20 Northern Mariana Islands that provide opportu-
21 nities for the visiting public to actively or pas-
22 sively experience the monument and to gain
23 greater awareness and appreciation of the re-
24 sources therein;

1 (E) sufficient visitor amenities including
2 restrooms, public telephones, drinking water,
3 and other basic facilities; and

4 (F) administrative office space sufficient to
5 fulfill the management obligations and respon-
6 sibilities of the Secretary and other Federal
7 agencies as specified in the monument's ena-
8 bling proclamation.

9 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
11 as are necessary to fulfill the purposes of this Act.

12 **SEC. 5. DONATIONS.**

13 For the purposes of the planning, construction, and
14 operation of the visitor facility authorized under section
15 3 of this Act, the Secretary may accept, retain, and expend
16 donations of funds, and use property or services donated
17 from private persons and entities or from public entities.

○