

# Union Calendar No. 518

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 706

[Report No. 113-687]

To establish the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, to dedicate the Park to John H. Chafee, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. NEAL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

DECEMBER 22, 2014

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 14, 2013]

# **A BILL**

To establish the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, to dedicate the Park to John H. Chafee, 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 “Blackstone River Valley*  
5 *National Historical Park Establishment Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7        *In this Act:*

8            (1) *NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.*—*The term*  
9        *“National Heritage Corridor” means the John H.*  
10        *Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage*  
11        *Corridor.*

12            (2) *PARK.*—*The term “Park” means the Black-*  
13        *stone River Valley National Historical Park estab-*  
14        *lished under section 3.*

15            (3) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*  
16        *the Secretary of the Interior.*

17            (4) *STATES.*—*The term “States” means—*

18                    (A) *the State of Massachusetts; and*

19                    (B) *the State of Rhode Island.*

20 **SEC. 3. BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HISTOR-**  
21 **ICAL PARK.**

22            (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*There is established in the*  
23 *States a unit of the National Park System, to be known*  
24 *as the “Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park”.*

1       (b) *HISTORIC SITES AND DISTRICTS.*—*The Park may*  
2 *include—*

3           (1) *Blackstone River State Park; and*

4           (2) *the following resources, as described in Man-*  
5 *agement Option 3 of the study entitled “Blackstone*  
6 *River Valley Special Resource Study—Study Report*  
7 *2011”:*

8           (A) *Old Slater Mill National Historic*  
9 *Landmark District.*

10          (B) *Slatersville Historic District.*

11          (C) *Ashton Historic District.*

12          (D) *Whitinsville Historic District.*

13          (E) *Hopedale Village Historic District.*

14          (F) *Blackstone River and the tributaries of*  
15 *Blackstone River.*

16          (G) *Blackstone Canal.*

17       (c) *ACQUISITION OF LAND; PARK BOUNDARY.*—

18           (1) *LAND ACQUISITION.*—*The Secretary may ac-*  
19 *quire land or interests in land in the historic sites*  
20 *and districts described in subsection (b)(2) for inclu-*  
21 *sion in the Park boundary by donation or exchange.*

22           (2) *PARK BOUNDARY.*—*On a determination by*  
23 *the Secretary that a sufficient quantity of land or in-*  
24 *terests in land has been acquired to constitute a man-*  
25 *ageable park unit, the Secretary may establish a*

1 *boundary for the Park by publishing a boundary map*  
2 *in the Federal Register.*

3 (3) *BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—On the acquisi-*  
4 *tion of additional land or interests in land under*  
5 *paragraph (1), the boundary of the Park shall be ad-*  
6 *justed to reflect the acquisition by publishing a Park*  
7 *boundary map in the Federal Register.*

8 (4) *AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The maps referred*  
9 *to in this subsection shall be available for public in-*  
10 *spection in the appropriate offices of the National*  
11 *Park Service.*

12 (5) *WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE OWNER.—No*  
13 *non-Federal property may be included in the Park*  
14 *without the written consent of the owner.*

15 (6) *LIMITATION.—Land owned by the States or*  
16 *a political subdivision of the States may be acquired*  
17 *under this subsection only by donation.*

18 (d) *ADMINISTRATION.—*

19 (1) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall admin-*  
20 *ister land within the boundary of the Park in accord-*  
21 *ance with—*

22 (A) *this section; and*

23 (B) *the laws generally applicable to units of*  
24 *the National Park System, including—*

1                   (i) *the National Park Service Organic*  
2                   *Act (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and*

3                   (ii) *the Act of August 21, 1935 (16*  
4                   *U.S.C. 461 et seq.).*

5           (2) *GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—*

6                   (A) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years*  
7                   *after the date on which funds are made available*  
8                   *to carry out this section, the Secretary shall pre-*  
9                   *pare a general management plan for the Park—*

10                   (i) *in consultation with the States and*  
11                   *other interested parties; and*

12                   (ii) *in accordance with section 12(b) of*  
13                   *the National Park System General Authori-*  
14                   *ties Act (16 U.S.C. 1a–7(b)).*

15                   (B) *REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall con-*  
16                   *sider ways to use preexisting or planned visitor*  
17                   *facilities and recreational opportunities devel-*  
18                   *oped in the National Heritage Corridor, includ-*  
19                   *ing—*

20                   (i) *the Blackstone Valley Visitor Cen-*  
21                   *ter, Pawtucket, Rhode Island;*

22                   (ii) *the Captain Wilbur Kelly House,*  
23                   *Blackstone River State Park, Lincoln,*  
24                   *Rhode Island;*

1                   (iii) *the Museum of Work and Culture,*  
2                   *Woonsocket, Rhode Island;*

3                   (iv) *the River Bend Farm/Blackstone*  
4                   *River and Canal Heritage State Park,*  
5                   *Uxbridge, Massachusetts;*

6                   (v) *the Worcester Blackstone Visitor*  
7                   *Center, located at the former Washburn &*  
8                   *Moen wire mill facility, Worcester, Massa-*  
9                   *chusetts;*

10                  (vi) *the Route 295 Visitor Center adja-*  
11                  *cent to Blackstone River State Park; and*

12                  (vii) *the Blackstone River Bikeway.*

13                  (3) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary*  
14                  *may provide technical assistance to State, local, or*  
15                  *tribal governments, organizations, or individuals for*  
16                  *the management, interpretation, and historic preser-*  
17                  *vation of historically significant Blackstone River*  
18                  *Valley resources not included within the Park.*

19                  (4) *COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—*

20                         (A) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter*  
21                         *into cooperative agreements to carry out this*  
22                         *Act.*

23                         (B) *MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The Sec-*  
24                         *retary shall require that any Federal funds made*  
25                         *available under a cooperative agreement entered*

1           into under this paragraph are to be matched on  
2           a 1-to-1 basis by non-Federal funds.

3           (C) *REIMBURSEMENT.*—Any payment made  
4           by the Secretary under subparagraph (A) shall  
5           be subject to an agreement that the conversion,  
6           use, or disposal of the project for purposes that  
7           are inconsistent with the purposes of this section,  
8           as determined by the Secretary, shall result in a  
9           right of the United States to reimbursement of  
10          the greater of—

11                   (i) the amount provided by the Sec-  
12                   retary to the project under subparagraph  
13                   (A); or

14                   (ii) an amount equal to the increase in  
15                   the value of the project that is attributable  
16                   to the funds, as determined by the Secretary  
17                   at the time of the conversion, use, or dis-  
18                   posal.

19          (D) *PUBLIC ACCESS.*—Any cooperative  
20          agreement entered into under this paragraph  
21          shall provide for reasonable public access to the  
22          resources covered by the cooperative agreement.

23          (e) *DEDICATION; MEMORIAL.*—



1           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Congress dedicates the Park to  
2           *John H. Chafee, the former United States Senator*  
3           *from Rhode Island, in recognition of—*

4                   (A) *the role of John H. Chafee in the preser-*  
5                   *vation of the resources of the Blackstone River*  
6                   *Valley and the heritage corridor that bears the*  
7                   *name of John H. Chafee; and*

8                   (B) *the decades of the service of John H.*  
9                   *Chafee to the people of Rhode Island and the*  
10                  *United States.*

11           (2) *MEMORIAL.*—The Secretary shall display a  
12           *memorial at an appropriate location in the Park that*  
13           *recognizes the role of John H. Chafee in preserving*  
14           *the resources of the Blackstone River Valley for the*  
15           *people of the United States.*

16           (f) *NO USE OF CONDEMNATION.*—The Secretary may  
17           *not acquire by condemnation any land or interest in land*  
18           *under this Act for the purposes of this Act.*

19           (g) *NO BUFFER ZONE CREATED.*—Nothing in this  
20           *Act, the establishment of the Park, or the management plan*  
21           *for the Park shall be construed to create buffer zones outside*  
22           *of the Park. That activities or uses can be seen, heard, or*  
23           *detected from areas within the Park shall not preclude,*  
24           *limit, control, regulate, or determine the conduct or man-*  
25           *agement of activities or uses outside of the Park.*

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