

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5136

To require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of Plum Island.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. MURPHY) 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 study of Plum Island.

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 “Plum Island Preserva-
5 tion Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

1 (2) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”
2 means the Federal property commonly known as
3 “Plum Island” in the State of New York, includ-
4 ing—

5 (A) the Orient Point facility; and

6 (B) all real and personal property and
7 transportation assets that support—

8 (i) Plum Island operations; and

9 (ii) access to Plum Island.

10 **SEC. 3. PLUM ISLAND SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a
12 special resource study of the study area.

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

15 (1) evaluate the national significance of the
16 study area;

17 (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of
18 designating the study area as a unit administered by
19 the Department of the Interior;

20 (3) consider other alternatives for preservation,
21 protection, and interpretation of the study area by
22 the Federal Government, State or local govern-
23 mental entities, or private and nonprofit organiza-
24 tions;

1 (4) consult with interested Federal agencies,
2 State or local governmental entities, private and
3 nonprofit organizations, or any other interested indi-
4 viduals; and

5 (5) identify cost estimates for any Federal ac-
6 quisition, development, interpretation, operation, and
7 maintenance associated with the alternatives consid-
8 ered.

9 (c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under
10 subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with sec-
11 tion 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

12 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date
13 on which funds are first made available to carry out the
14 study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to
15 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
16 Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the
17 House of Representatives a report that describes—

18 (1) the findings and conclusions of the study;

19 and

20 (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

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