

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 615

To establish Coltsville National Historical Park in the State of Connecticut,  
and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 19, 2013

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

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## A BILL

To establish Coltsville National Historical Park in the State  
of Connecticut, 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 “Coltsville National His-  
5       torical Park Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       For the purposes of this Act:

8               (1) CITY.—The term “city” means the city of  
9       Hartford, Connecticut.

1           (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”  
2 means the Coltsville National Historical Park Advi-  
3 sory Commission established by subsection 6(a).

4           (3) HISTORIC DISTRICT.—The term “Historic  
5 District” means the Coltsville Historic District.

6           (4) MAP.—The term “map” means the map ti-  
7 tled “Coltsville National Historical Park—Proposed  
8 Boundary”, numbered T25/102087, and dated May  
9 11, 2010.

10          (5) PARK.—The term “park” means the  
11 Coltsville National Historical Park in the State of  
12 Connecticut.

13          (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
14 the Secretary of the Interior.

15          (7) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
16 of Connecticut.

17 **SEC. 3. COLTSVILLE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

18          (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

19           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
20 there is established in the State a unit of the Na-  
21 tional Park System to be known as the “Coltsville  
22 National Historical Park”.

23           (2) CONDITIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—The  
24 park shall not be established until the date on which  
25 the Secretary determines that—

1 (A) the Secretary has acquired by donation  
2 sufficient land or an interest in land within the  
3 boundary of the park to constitute a manage-  
4 able unit;

5 (B) the State, city, or private property  
6 owner, as appropriate, has entered into a writ-  
7 ten agreement with the Secretary to donate at  
8 least 10,000 square feet of space in the East  
9 Armory which would include facilities for park  
10 administration and visitor services; and

11 (C) the Secretary has entered into a writ-  
12 ten agreement with the State, city, or other  
13 public entity, as appropriate, providing that—

14 (i) land owned by the State, city, or  
15 other public entity within the Coltsville  
16 Historic District shall be managed con-  
17 sistent with this section; and

18 (ii) future uses of land within the his-  
19 toric district shall be compatible with the  
20 designation of the park and the city's pres-  
21 ervation ordinance.

22 (b) BOUNDARIES.—The park shall include and pro-  
23 vide appropriate interpretation and viewing of the fol-  
24 lowing sites, as generally depicted on the map:

25 (1) The East Armory.

- 1 (2) The Church of the Good Shepherd.
- 2 (3) The Caldwell/Colt Memorial Parish House.
- 3 (4) Colt Park.
- 4 (5) The Potsdam Cottages.
- 5 (6) Armsmear.
- 6 (7) The James Colt House.

7 (c) COLLECTIONS.—The Secretary shall enter into a  
8 written agreement with the State of Connecticut State Li-  
9 brary, Wadsworth Atheneum, and the Colt Trust, or other  
10 public entities, as appropriate, to gain appropriate access  
11 to Colt-related artifacts for the purposes of having items  
12 routinely on display in the East Armory or within the park  
13 as determined by the Secretary as a major function of the  
14 visitor experience.

15 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer  
17 the park in accordance with—

- 18 (1) this Act; and
- 19 (2) the laws generally applicable to units of the  
20 National Park System, including—
  - 21 (A) the National Park Service Organic Act  
22 (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and
  - 23 (B) the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C.  
24 461 et seq.).

1 (b) STATE AND LOCAL JURISDICTION.—Nothing in  
2 this Act enlarges, diminishes, or modifies any authority  
3 of the State, or any political subdivision of the State (in-  
4 cluding the city)—

5 (1) to exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction; or

6 (2) to carry out State laws (including regula-  
7 tions) and rules on non-Federal land located within  
8 the boundary of the park.

9 (c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—As the Secretary determines  
11 to be appropriate to carry out this Act, the Sec-  
12 retary may enter into cooperative agreements with  
13 the owner of any property within the Coltsville His-  
14 toric District or any nationally significant properties  
15 within the boundary of the park, under which the  
16 Secretary may identify, interpret, restore, rehabili-  
17 tate, and provide technical assistance for the preser-  
18 vation of the properties.

19 (2) RIGHT OF ACCESS.—A cooperative agree-  
20 ment entered into under paragraph (1) shall provide  
21 that the Secretary, acting through the Director of  
22 the National Park Service, shall have the right of  
23 access at all reasonable times to all public portions  
24 of the property covered by the agreement for the  
25 purposes of—

1 (A) conducting visitors through the prop-  
2 erties; and

3 (B) interpreting the properties for the pub-  
4 lic.

5 (3) CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS.—No changes  
6 or alterations shall be made to any properties cov-  
7 ered by a cooperative agreement entered into under  
8 paragraph (1) unless the Secretary and the other  
9 party to the agreement agree to the changes or al-  
10 terations.

11 (4) CONVERSION, USE, OR DISPOSAL.—Any  
12 payment by the Secretary under this subsection shall  
13 be subject to an agreement that the conversion, use,  
14 or disposal of a project for purposes contrary to the  
15 purposes of this section, as determined by the Sec-  
16 retary, shall entitle the United States to reimburse-  
17 ment in an amount equal to the greater of—

18 (A) the amounts made available to the  
19 project by the United States; or

20 (B) the portion of the increased value of  
21 the project attributable to the amounts made  
22 available under this subsection, as determined  
23 at the time of the conversion, use, or disposal.

24 (5) MATCHING FUNDS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of the  
2 receipt of funds under this subsection, the Sec-  
3 retary shall require that any Federal funds  
4 made available under a cooperative agreement  
5 shall be matched on a 1-to-1 basis by non-Fed-  
6 eral funds.

7 (B) FORM.—With the approval of the Sec-  
8 retary, the non-Federal share required under  
9 subparagraph (A) may be in the form of do-  
10 nated property, goods, or services from a non-  
11 Federal source, fairly valued.

12 (d) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—The Secretary is au-  
13 thorized to acquire land and interests in land by donation,  
14 purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or ex-  
15 change, except that land or interests in land owned by the  
16 State or any political subdivision of the State may be ac-  
17 quired only by donation.

18 (e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PUBLIC INTERPRE-  
19 TATION.—The Secretary may provide technical assistance  
20 and public interpretation of related historic and cultural  
21 resources within the boundary of the historic district.

22 **SEC. 5. MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 fiscal years after  
24 the date on which funds are made available to carry out  
25 this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Commis-

1 sion, shall complete a management plan for the park in  
2 accordance with—

3 (1) section 12(b) of Public Law 91–383 (com-  
4 monly known as the National Park Service General  
5 Authorities Act) (16 U.S.C. 1a–7(b)); and

6 (2) other applicable laws.

7 (b) COST SHARE.—The management plan shall in-  
8 clude provisions that identify costs to be shared by the  
9 Federal Government, the State, and the city, and other  
10 public or private entities or individuals for necessary cap-  
11 ital improvements to, and maintenance and operations of,  
12 the park.

13 (c) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—On completion of  
14 the management plan, the Secretary shall submit the man-  
15 agement plan to—

16 (1) the Committee on Natural Resources of the  
17 House of Representatives; and

18 (2) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-  
19 sources of the Senate.

20 **SEC. 6. COLTSVILLE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ADVI-**  
21 **SORY COMMISSION.**

22 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Com-  
23 mission to be known as the Coltsville National Historical  
24 Park Advisory Commission.



1 (b) DUTY.—The Commission shall advise the Sec-  
2 retary in the development and implementation of the man-  
3 agement plan.

4 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

5 (1) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be  
6 composed of 11 members, to be appointed by the  
7 Secretary, of whom—

8 (A) 2 members shall be appointed after  
9 consideration of recommendations submitted by  
10 the Governor of the State;

11 (B) 1 member shall be appointed after con-  
12 sideration of recommendations submitted by the  
13 State Senate President;

14 (C) 1 member shall be appointed after con-  
15 sideration of recommendations submitted by the  
16 Speaker of the State House of Representatives;

17 (D) 2 members shall be appointed after  
18 consideration of recommendations submitted by  
19 the Mayor of Hartford, Connecticut;

20 (E) 2 members shall be appointed after  
21 consideration of recommendations submitted by  
22 Connecticut's 2 United States Senators;

23 (F) 1 member shall be appointed after con-  
24 sideration of recommendations submitted by

1 Connecticut's First Congressional District Rep-  
 2 resentative;

3 (G) 2 members shall have experience with  
 4 national parks and historic preservation;

5 (H) all appointments must have significant  
 6 experience with and knowledge of the Coltsville  
 7 Historic District; and

8 (I) 1 member of the Commission must live  
 9 in the Sheldon/Charter Oak neighborhood with-  
 10 in the Coltsville Historic District.

11 (2) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Secretary  
 12 shall appoint the initial members of the Commission  
 13 not later than the earlier of—

14 (A) the date that is 30 days after the date  
 15 on which the Secretary has received all of the  
 16 recommendations for appointments under para-  
 17 graph (1); or

18 (B) the date that is 30 days after the park  
 19 is established.

20 (d) TERM; VACANCIES.—

21 (1) TERM.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—A member shall be ap-  
 23 pointed for a term of 3 years.

1 (B) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member may be  
2 reappointed for not more than 1 additional  
3 term.

4 (2) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission  
5 shall be filled in the same manner as the original ap-  
6 pointment was made.

7 (e) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at the  
8 call of—

9 (1) the Chairperson; or

10 (2) a majority of the members of the Commis-  
11 sion.

12 (f) QUORUM.—A majority of the Commission shall  
13 constitute a quorum.

14 (g) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall select  
16 a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among the  
17 members of the Commission.

18 (2) VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The Vice Chairperson  
19 shall serve as Chairperson in the absence of the  
20 Chairperson.

21 (3) TERM.—A member may serve as Chair-  
22 person or Vice Chairperson for not more than 1 year  
23 in each office.

24 (h) COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

25 (1) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Members of the Com-  
2 mission shall serve without compensation.

3 (B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members of the  
4 Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, in-  
5 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates  
6 authorized for an employee of an agency under  
7 subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United  
8 States Code, while away from the home or reg-  
9 ular place of business of the member in the per-  
10 formance of the duty of the Commission.

11 (2) STAFF.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
13 provide the Commission with any staff members  
14 and technical assistance that the Secretary,  
15 after consultation with the Commission, deter-  
16 mines to be appropriate to enable the Commis-  
17 sion to carry out the duty of the Commission.

18 (B) DETAIL OF EMPLOYEES.—The Sec-  
19 retary may accept the services of personnel de-  
20 tailed from the State or any political subdivi-  
21 sion of the State.

22 (i) FACA NONAPPLICABILITY.—Section 14(b) of the  
23 Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not  
24 apply to the Commission.

25 (j) TERMINATION.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Unless extended under para-  
2           graph (2), the Commission shall terminate on the  
3           date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment  
4           of this Act.

5           (2) EXTENSION.—Eight years after the date of  
6           the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall  
7           make a recommendation to the Secretary if a body  
8           of its nature is still necessary to advise on the devel-  
9           opment of the park. If, based on a recommendation  
10          under this paragraph, the Secretary determines that  
11          the Commission is still necessary, the Secretary may  
12          extend the life of the Commission for not more than  
13          10 years.

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