

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1483

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 2, 2015

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

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, 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 “James K. Polk Presi-
5 dential Home Study Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) in 1961, the James K. Polk Home was des-
2 ignated as a National Historic Landmark; and

3 (2) in April 2015, the National Park Service
4 completed a reconnaissance survey of the James K.
5 Polk Home, in which the National Park Service—

6 (A) determined that—

7 (i) the James K. Polk Home is con-
8 clusively nationally significant; and

9 (ii) a special resource study is needed
10 to fully analyze the suitability, feasibility,
11 and need for management of the James K.
12 Polk Home by the National Park Service;
13 and

14 (B) recommended that Congress consider
15 authorizing a special resource study for the
16 James K. Polk Home and associated properties.

17 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (re-
19 ferred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a
20 special resource study of the site of the James K. Polk
21 Home in Columbia, Tennessee, and adjacent property (re-
22 ferred to in this Act as the “site”).

23 (b) CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall conduct the
24 study under subsection (a) in accordance with section
25 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

1 (c) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-
2 section (a), the Secretary shall—

3 (1) evaluate the national significance of the
4 site;

5 (2) determine the suitability and feasibility of
6 designating the site as a unit of the National Park
7 System;

8 (3) include cost estimates for any necessary ac-
9 quisition, development, operation, and maintenance
10 of the site;

11 (4) consult with interested Federal, State, or
12 local governmental entities, private and nonprofit or-
13 ganizations, or other interested individuals;

14 (5) include an analysis of the effect of the site
15 on—

16 (A) existing commercial and recreational
17 activities;

18 (B) the authorization, construction, oper-
19 ation, maintenance, or improvement of energy
20 production and transmission or other infra-
21 structure in the area; and

22 (C) the authority of State and local gov-
23 ernments to manage the activities described in
24 subparagraphs (A) and (B);

1 (6) include an identification of any authorities
2 (including condemnation) that would compel or per-
3 mit the Secretary to influence or participate in local
4 land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restric-
5 tions on non-Federal land if the site is designated as
6 a unit of the National Park System; and

7 (7) identify alternatives for the management,
8 administration, and protection of the site.

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

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

16 and

17 (2) any recommendations of the Secretary.

○