

STATEMENT OF DR. STEPHANIE TOOTHMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CULTURAL RESOURCES, PARTNERSHIPS AND SCIENCE, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL LANDS, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, CONCERNING H.R. 2817, A BILL TO AMEND TITLE 54, UNITED STATES CODE, TO EXTEND THE AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND.

February 11, 2016

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's testimony regarding H.R. 2817, a bill to amend Title 54, United States Code, to extend the authorization of appropriations for the Historic Preservation Fund.

The Department strongly supports enactment of H.R. 2817. This bill would reauthorize annual deposits of \$150,000,000 in the National Historic Preservation Fund through 2025 from revenues due to the United States under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. The authorization expired on September 30, 2015 and the Department strongly believes that this program needs to be reauthorized as soon as possible.

Fifty years ago, the Special Committee on Historic Preservation of the U.S. Conference of Mayors issued a report that made broad recommendations regarding the pressing need for a national historic preservation program. In response to the concerns raised by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Congress passed the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which established the national historic preservation program. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Act, one of the most significant amendments was the creation of the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) in 1976.

Congress created the HPF and directed that a small portion of revenue collected from federal offshore oil and gas development be employed to identify and protect America's irreplaceable historic and archeological treasures. These revenues provided to the HPF have been used to preserve resources in almost every single county across the nation. The work accomplished by this fund in preserving our national identity is just as important now as it was when it was created.

As the administrator of the Historic Preservation Fund, the National Park Service facilitates the allocation of federal grants to states, tribes, local governments, and nonprofits partners to carry out the federal mandates authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act. Funding from the HPF supports the 59 State Historic Preservation Offices – representing each state, U.S. territory, and the District of Columbia – in their efforts to address local and State preservation priorities. These efforts include: assisting communities and organizations with nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, surveys and inventories of historic properties, assistance and advice to federal, state, and local agencies in carrying out their historic preservation activities, evaluations of proposals for Federal historic preservation tax incentives, and technical

assistance on methods and means of preservation. HPF grants have supported over 80,000 listings on the National Register of Historic Places and surveys of millions of acres of land for cultural resources.

In FY 2015, the total HPF appropriation to states was \$46.925 million. The average grant to states was a little more than \$795,000. This funding leveraged more than \$29 million in state and local matching funds, resulting in an average expenditure of \$1 million per state on historic preservation activities, and supported more than 1,000 jobs throughout State Historic Preservation Offices. Noteworthy projects in FY 2015 included a partnership of the Utah State Historic Preservation Office, the University of Utah, and the Utah Heritage Foundation to fund a study of mid-century modern buildings on the university's campus. The study provided an intensive survey of 30 individual buildings and provided a contextual history of the Post-WWII campus. This information can now be used to list properties in the National Register of Historic Places, and also help guide the university as it plans projects that might have the potential to affect historic properties.

The Historic Preservation Fund is a model of what can be accomplished through public-private partnerships by enabling state, tribal, and local partners to work together to preserve their cultural heritage. The act mandates that each state direct at least 10% of their annual HPF allocation to local preservation activities in more than 1,930 Certified Local Governments across the country. Certified Local Governments are communities that have made a commitment to historic preservation by establishing a preservation commission and by partnering with the NPS and their state in the Federal Preservation program.

The Historic Preservation Fund program also provides support for the preservation and protection of America's tribal heritage. Since Fiscal Year 1990, Congress has appropriated funds to assist tribes in protecting vanishing tribal cultural resources, to initiate preservation programs, and to encourage full tribal participation in the national preservation program. Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPO) are one of the fastest growing preservation partnerships within the national preservation program. The inclusion of tribal values and the acknowledgment of sovereign tribal governments have significantly enhanced the national program. Funding provided by the HPF to THPOs supports their role as agents of heritage preservation within their communities.

In addition to funding Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, the Historic Preservation Fund preserves and promotes the unique cultural traditions of native people through tribal heritage grants. Since 1990, this competitive grant program, open to all federally-recognized tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and Native Hawaiian Organizations, has funded the preservation of specific places, the documentation of traditional arts and crafts, the recording of oral histories with elders, and the preservation of tribal languages. In FY 2015, 14 competitive grants were awarded totaling over \$530,000.

Telling the stories of all Americans is at the core of the Historic Preservation Fund's efforts. Current estimates place the combined representation of African American, American Latino, Asian America, Native American, Women and LGBT sites in the National Register of Historic Places and among National Historic Landmarks at less than 10% of total listings. In FY 2014,

\$500,000 was appropriated from the Historic Preservation Fund for a grant program for underrepresented communities. The NPS awarded grants to 13 states to assist in the development of surveys and nominations. An additional \$500,000 was awarded in FY 2015 to 9 additional projects and additional funds will be awarded in FY 2016.

Expanding our ability to preserve underrepresented historic places, the National Park Service was pleased that Congress appropriated \$8 million from the Historic Preservation Fund in Fiscal Year 2016 for the preservation of sites associated with civil rights and the African American experience. These grants will provide planning and bricks and mortar preservation assistance.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) have also benefited from the support of the Historic Preservation Fund. Since 1998, \$60 million has been appropriated from the HPF to preserve significant buildings, structures and sites on the campuses of HBCUs. Most recently, HPF funding allocated through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act supported preservation work on 21 HBCU campuses.

Historic resources are often in peril and not just because of the immense need for funding to rehabilitate them. When a natural disaster strikes, not only are communities battered, but cultural resources are damaged and threatened with demolition. In the past decade, appropriations have been made from the Historic Preservation Fund to aid in the repair and rehabilitation of historic resources after Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy.

Appropriations of \$50 million for Hurricane Sandy and \$53 million for Hurricane Katrina have supported nonprofits, local and state governments, and individuals in repairing close to 1,000 historic properties. These funds provided much-needed relief and support for a variety of historic sites, without which would have been lost and communities further damaged.

One of the most recognized federal/state partnerships supported through the Historic Preservation Fund is the federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program, which is administered by the National Park Service and the State Historic Preservation Offices. The program promotes the rehabilitation of historic buildings, while also promoting economic revitalization and reinvestment in places large and small across the country. The program has been instrumental in preserving historic places that give our cities, towns and rural communities their special character.

Projects certified through the program are eligible for a 20-percent federal tax credit, commonly referred to as the historic tax credit. In order to be eligible, the property owner must undertake the substantial rehabilitation of a historic building in a business or income-producing use, while maintaining its historic character. In Fiscal Year 2015, 870 completed historic rehabilitation projects were certified, leveraging over \$4.47 billion in private investment, and an additional 1,283 proposed projects were approved. According to the most recent Statistical Report and Analysis of the program¹ HPF grants have been responsible for \$73.8 billion in private investment through the program - which has, in turn, supported the rehabilitation of more than 40,000 historic buildings and created almost 2.5 million jobs. During Fiscal Year 2014, states and tribes reviewed and commented on approximately 158,000 federal undertakings across the

¹<http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives/taxdocs/tax-incentives-2014statistical.pdf>

country. States also reviewed plans for \$3.9 billion in private investment through the HPTC. From Main Streets to central cities, the program has consistently been a strong catalyst for job creation and economic growth while encouraging reinvestment in underutilized historic buildings and new uses for vacant and deteriorated ones

The projects and programs funded by the Historic Preservation Fund are highly cost-effective and leverage private investment while supporting the legislation outlined 50 years ago by the National Historic Preservation Act, the cornerstone of our nation's public policy on historic preservation. The Historic Preservation Fund's reauthorization is essential to continue the national historic preservation partnership program at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels, and continue to preserve our shared national history for all Americans, current and future.

This bill would address the most pressing issue of reauthorization of the Historic Preservation Fund and we urge the committee to move legislation forward as soon as possible, since deposits into the fund have already ceased, endangering the programs created to preserve our national history.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to respond to any questions you and other members of the subcommittee may have regarding this bill.

STATEMENT OF DR. STEPHANIE TOOTHMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CULTURAL RESOURCES, PARTNERSHIPS AND SCIENCE, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL LANDS, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, CONCERNING H.R. 295, A BILL TO REAUTHORIZE THE HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM.

February 11, 2016

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to present the Department of the Interior's testimony on H.R. 295, a bill to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program.

The Department supports enactment of H.R. 295. This bill would reauthorize annual appropriations of \$10,000,000 to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program through 2025. The bill amends the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to reauthorize funding for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings and structures on the campuses of historically black colleges and universities.

The historic and educational value of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) program is an integral part of our full and diverse American story. The majority of HBCUs were founded following the Civil War to provide an equal opportunity for education to African-Americans living during the era of Reconstruction. A substantial number of these campuses have historic buildings that date to the Reconstruction period. The campuses and their historic buildings are reminders of the promise of equality and should be preserved not only for what they represent in American history, but for the continuing use of students who attend HBCU's throughout the mid-Atlantic and southern United States. The sight of a newly constructed academic campus gave hope to those that had been previously denied an opportunity for education and freedom. These buildings stand as witnesses to the past, and should be restored for the use of future generations of students.

With the passage of the first and second Morrill Acts (1862 and 1890) and the subsequent Higher Education Act of 1965, a system of 107 Historical Black Colleges and Universities have been established across the mid-Atlantic and south. The nation has continued to highlight the importance and necessity of these institutions through Executive Orders and congressional actions supporting their vital role in the education of African-American youth. H.R. 295 represents the recognition and reinvigoration of this ongoing commitment in the centennial year of the National Park Service.

H.R. 295 will authorize HBCUs to receive much needed funding to support the critical needs of these institutions through the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). Historic preservation funding would support efforts to make these buildings both safe and functional, including: structural stabilization, repairing damaged masonry, abating environmental hazards such as lead paint and asbestos, replacing antiquated electrical and plumbing systems, fixing leaking roofs, repairing termite damage, and providing handicapped accessibility. The historic buildings on these

campuses have special repair needs that preservation funding could address by employing highly skilled trades and quality materials, the costs of which may strain a limited college budget. Subject to future HPF funding, the Act would enable the HBCU community to invest in the revitalization of these irreplaceable campus properties.

Previously, HBCUs received Historic Preservation Fund allocations to repair and revitalize buildings that were listed in, or considered eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, the nation's official list of places worthy of preservation. Between 1995 and 2006, over \$45 million of HPF grants were awarded to HBCUs. In FY 2009 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act appropriated an additional \$15 million from the HPF to fund HBCUs. Overall, these Historic Preservation Fund apportionments supported over 60 institutions, funding 131 bricks and mortar projects at HBCUs across the mid-Atlantic and the south.

HPF funding allocated through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 supported preservation work on 21 HBCU campuses including a project at Allen University in South Carolina completed in 2012. The university used over \$1 million in HPF funding to rehabilitate the Chappelle Auditorium by repairing doors and windows, repointing the masonry exterior, addressing site drainage, and installing a new fire protection system to enable continued use of the National Register-listed auditorium.

Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana, used HPF funding for the Camphor and Hartzel Buildings, which both sat vacant for several years after sustaining flood waters in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. An \$800,000 grant allowed for the restoration of more than 400 windows and doors of the building and made the interior safer with lead paint abatement. Most importantly, this funding allowed Dillard to utilize the property for a new generation of students.

These are just a few examples of the type of change that the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program can bring to both a campus and a community. Today, these historic and vital campuses are proud to remain the custodians of access and opportunity for higher education in under-served communities. The enactment of H.R. 295 will help to preserve unimpaired for future generations this important part of the American story.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my statement. I would be happy to answer any questions that you or other members of the subcommittee may have regarding this bill.

STATEMENT OF DR. STEPHANIE TOOTHMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CULTURAL RESOURCES, SCIENCE, AND PARTNERSHIPS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL LANDS, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, CONCERNING H.R. 1621, A BILL TO MODIFY THE BOUNDARY OF PETERSBURG NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

February 11, 2016

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the Department of the Interior on H.R. 1621, a bill to modify the boundary of Petersburg National Battlefield in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and for other purposes.

The Department supports H.R. 1621 with amendments described later in this statement.

H.R. 1621 has three components. First, the bill would expand the currently authorized boundary of Petersburg National Battlefield by approximately 7,238 acres. The boundary expansion proposal results from an analysis of “core battlefields” and a subsequent boundary adjustment study conducted as part of Petersburg National Battlefield’s General Management Plan completed in 2004. Second, the bill would provide for a conforming amendment increasing the acreage ceiling at the City Point unit from 21 acres to 25 acres. Third, the bill would effect a land exchange between the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Army involving approximately one acre.

The City of Petersburg lies in the corridor of intensive growth from Washington, D.C. to south of Richmond, Virginia. The region surrounding Petersburg National Battlefield has been experiencing significant development pressures impacting areas immediately adjacent to the park and unprotected battlefield sites. This development not only threatens park resources and public enjoyment but also the core portions of the battlefields.

The park commemorates the Petersburg Campaign, the longest sustained combative military front on American soil, in both time and distance. When Congress created the park in 1926, only a fraction of the battlefield acreage associated with the 26 major battles of the Petersburg Campaign was included in the boundary. The additional lands proposed to be added to the park by H.R. 1621 would allow the public to better understand the size, complexity, and duration of the 9½ month Petersburg Campaign and siege while offering protection to existing park resources.

In 2002, in response to significant development pressures in the region surrounding the park and as part of its General Management Plan process, Petersburg National Battlefield undertook a detailed assessment of battlefields in the Petersburg Campaign cited in the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) report of 1993 entitled “Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields.” The CWSAC report identified 100,000 acres of the Petersburg battlefields as “core

battlefields” encompassing all of the critical phases defined for a battle. Of the 100,000 acres cited, 23,000 acres were determined to retain historic integrity.

During its more detailed analyses of the 23,000 acres, the park concentrated on those portions of the battlefields that were south of the Appomattox River and directly associated with the siege or defense of Petersburg, and that were identified as Class A (decisive) and Class B (major) by the CWSAC. Additionally, the park used historical maps and documentation to further refine the acreage to that constituting the portion of the battlefield on which both armies were engaged directly and that had a bearing on the outcome for each battle. Park staff further analyzed the integrity of these areas and their potential for public access and interpretation. The analyses found that 7,238 acres met the criteria for integrity and interpretability.

The estimated time period for acquisition of the 7,238 acres of these nationally significant lands is 15-20 years. Virtually all of the land subject to the boundary adjustment represents a mixture of private and non-profit, organization-owned parcels. Agricultural and conservation easements will be the preferred method of acquisition for most parcels. Easements enable protection of these battlefields from inappropriate development while retaining private ownership and compatible use of the land. Where easements are not possible, and there is interest by the landowners, other acquisition methods, such as donation and fee simple acquisition from willing sellers based on available funding, will be utilized for battlefield preservation.

Under a 2008 estimate, the total estimated cost of purchasing in fee simple all of the 7,238 acres would be \$29.7 million. Protection of land through easements and donations, which is anticipated for a large portion of the lands, would likely significantly lower acquisition costs and is the Department’s preferred method of protection. The estimated cost for capital expenses (trails, wayside exhibits, rehabilitation of existing visitor contact station, etc.) and expansion-related costs (surveys, hazardous materials studies, etc.) is \$1.9 million. Development of visitor services and interpretation at these new battlefield locations would be minimal and include small parking areas, wayside exhibits, and trail and other enhancements to the sites. The annual increase in park operation and maintenance is estimated to be \$531,000. Development and operational numbers are in 2014 dollars. All funds would be subject to NPS priorities and the availability of appropriations.

Public response to the General Management Plan and the proposed boundary expansion has been favorable among local governments, organizations, and individuals. The Dinwiddie County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution supporting future legislation to expand the boundary of the park as outlined in the General Management Plan. Many civic organizations in the Petersburg region have also indicated support for the proposal.

The bill would also provide for a conforming amendment increasing the acreage ceiling at the City Point unit in Hopewell from 21 acres to 25 acres. In 1978, Petersburg National Battlefield was authorized to acquire the Eppes family property at City Point, provided that the amount of land acquired did not exceed 21 acres [Public Law 95-625]. The Conservation Fund owns land adjacent to the park property at the City Point unit that was purchased for the battlefield, and that land would be added to the park boundary under this bill. However, the addition of that land would exceed the 21-acre limit on land the park is authorized to acquire at City Point. Raising

that limit to 25 acres would ensure that there is no conflict between the 1978 authority and this bill. In addition, ensuring clear legal authority for the park's acquisition of the Conservation Fund land would facilitate a potential land exchange that would enable the NPS to dispose of a portion of the park's property at City Point that has no relevance to the park's mission or interpretive themes.

The bill would also effect a transfer of administrative jurisdiction between the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior involving two small parcels of land. Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, the Army was required to erect a perimeter fence around Fort Lee Military Reservation, located adjacent to Petersburg National Battlefield. The fence intruded slightly into the boundary of the park. Effective upon enactment of this bill, the Army would receive administrative jurisdiction over the 1.170 acres of park land where the perimeter fence is located and the National Park Service would receive 1.171 acres of land at Fort Lee.

While the Army and the National Park Service have long been supportive of this exchange, we are currently in discussion with the Army about a possible revision to the plan based on developments that have occurred since the exchange was first conceived. At a minimum, we would want to submit a corrected legislative map for the exchange as well as language that specifies that the land transferred to the Army be excluded from the park boundary. We may need to seek a more substantial amendment to this portion of the bill. In addition, we may need to make some technical corrections to the legislative map for the boundary expansion, the other map that is referenced in this bill. We will follow up with the committee on these matters as quickly as possible.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my statement. I would be happy to answer any questions that you or other members of the subcommittee may have regarding this bill.

**STATEMENT OF DR. STEPHANIE TOOTHMAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
CULTURAL RESOURCES, PARTNERSHIPS AND SCIENCE, NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL LANDS, COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES, CONCERNING H.R. 87, TO MODIFY THE BOUNDARY OF
SHILOH NATIONAL MILITARY PARK LOCATED IN THE STATES OF TENNESSEE
AND MISSISSIPPI, TO ESTABLISH PARKER’S CROSSROADS BATTLEFIELD AS
AN AFFILIATED AREA OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.**

FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the Department of the Interior on H.R. 87, a bill to modify the boundary of Shiloh National Military Park in the States of Tennessee and Mississippi, to establish Parker’s Crossroads Battlefield in the state of Tennessee as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The Department supports H.R. 87 with technical amendments.

H.R. 87 would add three sites related to the Siege and Battle of Corinth to the boundary of Shiloh National Military Park. In 1991, the “Siege and Battle of Corinth Sites” was designated a National Historic Landmark. The Corinth Battlefield Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-271) authorized the creation of the Corinth Unit, as part of Shiloh National Military Park, to “interpret the Siege and Battle of Corinth and other Civil War actions in the area in and around the city of Corinth, Mississippi.” The legislation defined a large partnership role with state, local, and private park partners in the planning, development and interpretation of the unit. The law also authorized a special resource study to identify and determine any other areas that would be appropriate for inclusion in the unit.

The “Corinth Special Resource Study and Boundary Adjustment Environmental Assessment,” completed in 2004, identified 18 sites that have a high degree of integrity and significant resources that would provide opportunities for public enjoyment, and recommended that these be included in the boundary of the Corinth Unit of Shiloh National Military Park. In 2007, Congress amended the Corinth Battlefield Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 110-161, Section 127) to expand the boundary of the Corinth Unit of Shiloh National Military Park to include 12 of those sites.

H.R. 87 would further modify the boundary of Shiloh National Military Park to include three of the six remaining sites identified in the 2004 special resource study. These three sites – the battlefields of Fallen Timbers, Russell House, and Davis Bridge – would contribute significantly to telling the remarkable story of the United States Army’s Mississippi Valley Campaign during the Civil War, especially the Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee and the Siege of Corinth, Mississippi. The Mississippi Valley Campaign was a major milestone on the road that led to the final success of the Union Army in the war and the ultimate reunification of the nation.

The first battlefield that H.R. 87 would include in Shiloh's authorized boundary is Fallen Timbers. On April 8, 1862, after two days of fierce fighting at Shiloh, Major General Ulysses S. Grant dispatched Brigadier General William T. Sherman on a reconnaissance to investigate Confederate intentions. Sherman encountered a large Confederate field hospital protected by a force of Southern cavalry under Lieutenant Colonel Nathan Bedford Forrest in an area called Fallen Timbers. Sherman advanced against the Confederate force and captured the field hospital with its surgeons and about 250 wounded Southern soldiers and about 50 wounded U.S. soldiers that had been previously captured by the Confederates. After this engagement, the Confederates retreated to Corinth and Sherman returned to Shiloh Church. Thus, the final shots of the Battle of Shiloh were fired at Fallen Timbers. A cautious and methodical U.S. Army advance would now mark the beginning of the advance upon, and siege of Corinth.

The Fallen Timbers Battlefield site consists of 468 acres of agricultural and forested land, a small portion of which is developed. The Civil War Trust has acquired approximately 270 acres of this land with the intention of donating it to the federal government. The remaining 198 acres that would be included in the boundary are in private ownership.

The second battlefield that H.R. 87 would include in Shiloh's authorized boundary is the Russell House. On May 17, 1862, during the advance upon Corinth, U.S. forces led by Major General Sherman, fought a Confederate brigade and compelled the southern force to abandon its strong outpost at the Russell House situated on the Tennessee-Mississippi state line. Because the position possessed a great natural strength, Sherman's men lost no time fortifying it and driving the enemy further south toward Corinth.

The pastoral setting of the Russell House Battlefield retains a high degree of integrity, contains the extant remains of field fortifications, and has high potential for archeological survey and research. The approximately 666-acre tract that would be included in the boundary is in private ownership.

The third battlefield that H.R. 87 would include in Shiloh's authorized boundary is Davis Bridge. On October 5, 1862, U.S. troops attacked a retreating Confederate force at Davis Bridge on the Hatchie River. The Federals drove the Confederates back across the river, seized the bridge, and charged into a thicket east of the river. Confederates defending the heights overlooking the crossing to the east inflicted heavy casualties on the Federals and checked their further advance, thereby permitting the defeated Confederate force to retreat south into Mississippi. The engagement at Davis Bridge was the last Confederate offensive in Mississippi.

In 1998, a 598-acre portion of the Davis Bridge Battlefield was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge across the Hatchie River has long since washed away and the banks of the river have undergone erosion, but the 1,090 acres proposed to be included in the park boundary retain a high degree of integrity with much of the acreage remaining in agricultural cultivation or woodlands. The State of Tennessee owns approximately 845 of these acres. An approximately five-acre plot, which is a contributing property to the Siege and Battle of Corinth National Historic Landmark, has been donated to the National Park Service by the Davis Bridge Memorial Foundation.

If this legislation is enacted, we anticipate that we would acquire the majority of land by donation and that we would not develop visitor services or facilities at the three sites for the foreseeable future. Therefore, land acquisition and development costs would be minimal. Our current estimate for administrative costs associated with land donation at the three sites is \$60,000 to cover title searches, environmental site assessments, and closing actions, subject to the availability of appropriations.

H.R. 87 would also establish Parker's Crossroads Battlefield in the State of Tennessee as an affiliated area of the National Park System. The bill designates the city of Parkers Crossroads and the Tennessee Historical Commission as the management entity for the affiliated area and authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide technical assistance and enter into cooperative agreements with the management entity for the purpose of providing financial assistance for the marketing, marking, interpretation, and preservation of the affiliated area. As an affiliated area, Parker's Crossroads Battlefield would continue under non-federal ownership and management, but the owner would be required to administer the site consistent with laws applicable to units of the National Park System.

Affiliated areas comprise a variety of locations in the United States that preserve significant properties outside of the National Park System. Some of these have been designated by Acts of Congress and others have been designated administratively. All draw on technical assistance or financial aid from the National Park Service.

The Parker's Crossroads Battlefield is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is significant for its role in the military history of the Civil War and its archeological potential to yield information concerning the battle. The Parker's Crossroads Battlefield was the final engagement of Confederate now-Brigadier General Nathan Bedford Forrest's West Tennessee raid of December, 1862 which resulted in the disruption of Major General Ulysses S. Grant's supply lines as his army advanced towards Vicksburg. Forrest's raid and the simultaneous destruction of Grant's supply depot at Holly Spring, Mississippi, caused Grant to end his overland campaign against Vicksburg.

Since the battle, the area has remained largely in agricultural fields and forests consistent with its appearance in 1862, and the site retains a high degree of integrity. It is likely that the site contains physical remnants of the battle that can provide information concerning troop movements and areas where primary fighting occurred. The site is known to contain the remains of soldiers who were killed during the fighting and other burials may have also occurred there.

We recommend amending both of the dates of the map referenced in H.R. 87 to allow for more current maps to be substituted. Those amendments and a technical amendment are attached.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my statement. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or any members of the subcommittee may have.

Proposed Amendments to H.R. 87, Shiloh National Military Park Boundary Adjustment and Parker’s Crossroads Battlefield Designation Act

On page 2, line 16, strike “April 2012” and insert “July 2014”.

On page 3, line 9, strike “April 2012” and insert “July 2014”.

On page 4, lines 7-9, strike “section 12(b) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-1 et seq.,” and insert “section 100502 of title 54, United States Code,”

Explanation:

The above amendments would update the map references to more current maps and make the language consistent with the language previously used to designate affiliated areas.