

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 617

[Report No. 119-]

To amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 2025

Mrs. HARSHBARGER (for herself and Ms. BARRAGÁN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

APRIL --, 2025

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union,
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism,
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 “American Music Tour-
5 ism Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY**
7 **OF COMMERCE FOR TRAVEL AND TOURISM.**

8 (a) DOMESTIC TRAVEL AND TOURISM.—Section
9 605(b) of the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C. 9803(b)) is
10 amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” and
12 inserting a semicolon;

13 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
14 the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (3) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(4) identify locations and events in the United
17 States that are important to music tourism and fa-
18 cilitate and promote domestic travel and tourism to
19 those locations and events.”.

20 (b) FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
21 AND LEISURE TRAVEL.—Section 605 of the Visit America
22 Act (15 U.S.C. 9803) is amended by striking subsection
23 (d) and inserting the following:

24 “(d) FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
25 AND LEISURE TRAVEL.—The Assistant Secretary, in co-

1 ordination with relevant Federal agencies, shall strive to
2 increase and facilitate international business and leisure
3 travel to the United States and ensure competitiveness
4 by—

5 “(1) facilitating large meetings, incentives, con-
6 ferences, and exhibitions in the United States;

7 “(2) emphasizing rural and other destinations
8 in the United States that are rich in cultural herit-
9 age or ecological tourism, among other uniquely
10 American destinations, as locations for hosting inter-
11 national meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhi-
12 bitions;

13 “(3) facilitating and promoting international
14 travel and tourism to sports and recreation events
15 and activities in the United States; and

16 “(4) identifying locations and events in the
17 United States that are important to music tourism
18 and facilitating and promoting international travel
19 and tourism to those locations and events.”.

20 (c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 605(f) of
21 the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C. 9803(f)) is amended by
22 adding at the end the following:

23 “(4) REPORT ON GOALS RELATING TO DOMES-
24 TIC AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL.—Not later than
25 1 year after the date of enactment of the American

1 Music Tourism Act of 2025, and every 2 years
2 thereafter, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to
3 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
4 portation of the Senate and the Committee on En-
5 ergy and Commerce of the House of Representatives
6 a report of activities, findings, achievements, and
7 vulnerabilities relating to the goals described in sub-
8 sections (a) through (d).”.

9 (d) DEFINITION.—Section 600 of title VI of division
10 BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (15
11 U.S.C. 9801) is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
13 subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and adjust-
14 ing the margins accordingly;

15 (2) by striking “In this title, the term ‘COVID–
16 19 public health emergency’—” and inserting the
17 following:

18 “In this title:

19 “(1) COVID–19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMER-
20 GENCY.—The term ‘COVID–19 public health emer-
21 gency’—”; and

22 (3) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(2) MUSIC TOURISM.—The term ‘music tour-
24 ism’ means—

1 “(A) the act of traveling to a State or lo-
2 cality to visit historic or modern day music-re-
3 lated attractions, including museums, studios,
4 venues of all sizes, and other sites related to
5 music; or

6 “(B) the act of traveling to a State or lo-
7 cality to attend a music festival, a concert, or
8 other live musical performance or music-related
9 special event.”.