

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 7618, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7618

To amend title 54, United States Code, to modify certain cost-sharing requirements for grant programs under the American Battlefield Protection Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 20, 2026

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself and Mr. MAGAZINER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend title 54, United States Code, to modify certain cost-sharing requirements for grant programs under the American Battlefield Protection Program, 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 Battlefield
5 Protection Program Amendments Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM**
2 **GRANT PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) REAUTHORIZATION OF BATTLEFIELD ACQUI-
4 TION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 308103(f) of title 54,
5 United States Code, is amended by striking “2028” and
6 inserting “2036”.

7 (b) BATTLEFIELD INTERPRETATION MODERNIZA-
8 TION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 308104 of title 54,
9 United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (d).

10 (c) BATTLEFIELD RESTORATION GRANT PRO-
11 GRAM.—Section 308105 of title 54, United States Code,
12 is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
13 following:

14 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to pro-
16 vide grants under section 308104 and this section
17 \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2036.”.

18 **SEC. 3. FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR AND MEXICAN-AMER-**
19 **ICAN WAR SITES STUDIES.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
21 propriations made in advance for such purpose, the Sec-
22 retary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the
23 National Park Service) (referred to in this section as the
24 “Secretary”), shall prepare or certify, pursuant to sub-
25 section (b), studies of sites and structures located in the

1 United States that are thematically tied with nationally
2 significant events that occurred during—

3 (1) the French and Indian War from 1754–
4 1763; and

5 (2) the Mexican-American War from 1846–
6 1848.

7 (b) PREPARATION.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The studies under sub-
9 section (a) may be carried out—

10 (A) by the Secretary, in consultation with
11 affected States, Indian Tribes, local govern-
12 ments, the American Battlefield Trust, historic
13 preservation organizations, and any other inter-
14 ested individuals or entities, as determined by
15 the Secretary; or

16 (B) by interested individuals or entities, if
17 the Secretary certifies that the completed study
18 meets the requirements of subsection (c).

19 (2) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 1 year
20 after receiving a study carried out by interested indi-
21 viduals or entities under subsection (b)(1)(B), the
22 Secretary shall review and certify whether the study
23 meets the requirements of subsection (c).

24 (c) CONTENTS.—The studies prepared under sub-
25 section (a) shall—

1 (1) identify French and Indian War and Mexi-
2 can-American War sites, respectively, located within
3 the United States;

4 (2) determine the relative significance of the
5 identified sites;

6 (3) assess short- and long-term threats to the
7 integrity of the identified sites; and

8 (4) provide alternatives for the preservation and
9 interpretation of the identified sites by the Federal
10 Government, State, local, and Tribal governments,
11 or other public or private entities, including potential
12 designation of the identified sites as units of the Na-
13 tional Park System, as appropriate.

14 (d) CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS STUDIES AND RE-
15 PORTS.—In preparing the studies under subsection (b)(1),
16 the Secretary shall consider and may include information
17 from previous studies and reports relating to French and
18 Indian War or Mexican-American War historic sites pre-
19 pared by the National Park Service, the American Battle-
20 field Trust, or other historic preservation organizations,
21 as appropriate.

22 (e) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—

23 (1) STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY THE SEC-
24 RETARY.—With respect to studies carried out by the
25 Secretary in accordance with subsection (b)(1)(A),

1 the Secretary shall submit such studies to the Com-
2 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives and Committee on Energy and Natural
4 Resources of the Senate not later than 2 years after
5 the date on which funds are made available to carry
6 out such studies.

7 (2) STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY OTHER INTER-
8 ESTED PARTIES.—With respect to studies carried
9 out by interested individuals or entities in accord-
10 ance with subsection (b)(1)(B), the Secretary shall
11 submit such studies to the Committee on Natural
12 Resources of the House of Representatives and Com-
13 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Sen-
14 ate not later than 180 days after the date on which
15 the Secretary certifies under subsection (b)(2) that
16 the studies meet the requirements of subsection (c).

17 (3) BATTLEFIELD REPORT DEFINITION CLARI-
18 FICATION.—A study submitted under this subsection
19 shall be deemed to be a document included in the
20 definition of “Battlefield Reports” in section 308101
21 of title 54, United States Code.