

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6342

To promote and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities for members of the Armed Forces and veterans on Federal recreational lands and waters.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To promote and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities for members of the Armed Forces and veterans on Federal recreational lands and waters.

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 “Military and Veterans
5 in Parks Act” or the “MVP Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ACCESSIBLE TRAILS AND RECREATION OPPORTU-**
2 **NITIES FOR MILITARY SERVICEMEMBERS**
3 **AND VETERANS.**

4 (a) ACCESSIBLE RECREATION INVENTORY.—

5 (1) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 5 years after
6 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
7 concerned shall—

8 (A) carry out a comprehensive assessment
9 of outdoor recreation facilities on Federal rec-
10 reational lands and waters under the jurisdic-
11 tion of the respective Secretary concerned to de-
12 termine the accessibility of such outdoor recre-
13 ation facilities, consistent with the Architectural
14 Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.),
15 including—

16 (i) camp shelters, camping facilities,
17 and camping units;

18 (ii) boat launch ramps;

19 (iii) hunting, fishing, shooting, or
20 archery ranges or locations;

21 (iv) outdoor constructed features;

22 (v) picnic facilities and picnic units;

23 and

24 (vi) any other outdoor recreation fa-
25 cilities, as determined by the Secretary
26 concerned; and

1 (B) make information about such opportu-
2 nities available (including through the use of
3 prominently displayed links) on public websites
4 of—

5 (i) each of the Federal land manage-
6 ment agencies; and

7 (ii) each relevant unit and subunit of
8 the Federal land management agencies.

9 (2) INCLUSION OF CURRENT ASSESSMENTS.—
10 As part of the comprehensive assessment required
11 under paragraph (1)(A), to the extent practicable,
12 the Secretary concerned may rely on assessments
13 completed or data gathered prior to the date of en-
14 actment of this Act.

15 (3) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—Not later than 7
16 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
17 Secretary concerned shall identify opportunities to
18 create, update, or replace signage and other publicly
19 available information, including web page informa-
20 tion, related to accessibility and consistent with the
21 Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151
22 et seq.) at outdoor recreation facilities covered by
23 the assessment required under paragraph (1)(A).

24 (b) TRAIL INVENTORY.—

1 (1) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 7 years after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary con-
3 cerned shall—

4 (A) conduct a comprehensive assessment of
5 trails on Federal recreational lands and waters
6 under the jurisdiction of the respective Sec-
7 retary concerned, including measuring each
8 trail’s—

9 (i) surface;

10 (ii) clear tread width;

11 (iii) passing spaces;

12 (iv) size;

13 (v) tread obstacles;

14 (vi) openings;

15 (vii) slopes, including cross slope;

16 (viii) maximum running slope and
17 segment length;

18 (ix) resting intervals;

19 (x) length;

20 (xi) width;

21 (xii) turning space;

22 (xiii) protruding objects; and

23 (xiv) trailhead signs; and

1 (B) make information about such trails
2 available (including through the use of promi-
3 nently displayed links) on public websites of—

4 (i) each of the Federal land manage-
5 ment agencies; and

6 (ii) each relevant unit and subunit of
7 the Federal land management agencies.

8 (2) INCLUSION OF CURRENT ASSESSMENTS.—

9 As part of the comprehensive assessment required
10 under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary concerned
11 may, to the extent practicable, rely on assessments
12 completed or data gathered prior to the date of en-
13 actment of this Act.

14 (3) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—Not later than 7
15 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
16 Secretary concerned shall identify opportunities to
17 replace signage and other publicly available informa-
18 tion, including webpage information, related to such
19 trails and consistent with the Architectural Barriers
20 Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.) at trails cov-
21 ered by the assessment required under paragraph
22 (1)(A).

23 (4) PRIORITIZATION.—The Secretary concerned
24 shall consult with stakeholders, including veterans
25 organizations and organizations with expertise or ex-

1 perience providing outdoor recreation opportunities
2 to individuals with disabilities, in selecting priority
3 trails to measure under paragraph (1)(A).

4 (5) ASSISTIVE EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATION.—In
5 publishing information about each trail under this
6 subsection, the Secretary concerned shall make pub-
7 lic information about trails that do not meet the Ar-
8 chitectural Barriers Act accessibility guidelines but
9 could otherwise provide outdoor recreation opportu-
10 nities to individuals with disabilities through the use
11 of certain assistive equipment.

12 (c) TRAIL PILOT PROGRAM.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
14 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary con-
15 cerned shall carry out a pilot program to enter into
16 partnerships with eligible entities to—

17 (A) measure trails as part of the assess-
18 ment required under subsection (b);

19 (B) develop accessible trails under sub-
20 section (d); and

21 (C) make minor modifications to existing
22 trails to enhance recreational experiences for in-
23 dividuals with disabilities using assistive tech-
24 nology—

1 (i) in compliance with all applicable
2 land use and management plans of the
3 Federal recreational lands and waters on
4 which the accessible trail is located; and

5 (ii) in consultation with stakeholders,
6 including veterans organizations and orga-
7 nizations with expertise or experience pro-
8 viding outdoor recreation opportunities to
9 individuals with disabilities.

10 (2) LOCATIONS.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary con-
12 cerned shall select no fewer than 5 units or
13 subunits under the jurisdiction of the respective
14 Secretary concerned to carry out the pilot pro-
15 gram established under subparagraph (1).

16 (B) SPECIAL RULE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR
17 THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—In se-
18 lecting the locations of the pilot programs, the
19 Secretary of the Interior shall ensure that at
20 least one pilot program is carried out in a unit
21 managed by the—

22 (i) National Park Service;

23 (ii) Bureau of Land Management; and

24 (iii) United States Fish and Wildlife
25 Service.

1 (3) SUNSET.—The pilot program established
2 under this subsection shall terminate on the date
3 that is 7 years after the date of enactment of this
4 Act.

5 (d) ACCESSIBLE TRAILS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
7 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
8 concerned shall select a location or locations to de-
9 velop at least 3 new accessible trails—

10 (A) on National Forest System lands in
11 each region of the Forest Service;

12 (B) on land managed by the National Park
13 Service in each region of the National Park
14 Service;

15 (C) on land managed by the Bureau of
16 Land Management in each region of the Bu-
17 reau of Land Management; and

18 (D) on land managed by the United States
19 Fish and Wildlife Service in each region of the
20 United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

21 (2) DEVELOPMENT.—In developing an acces-
22 sible trail under paragraph (1), the Secretary con-
23 cerned—

24 (A) may—

25 (i) create a new accessible trail;

1 (ii) modify an existing trail into an
2 accessible trail; or

3 (iii) create an accessible trail from a
4 combination of new and existing trails; and
5 (B) shall—

6 (i) consult with stakeholders with re-
7 spect to the feasibility and resources nec-
8 essary for completing the accessible trail;

9 (ii) ensure the accessible trail complies
10 with the Architectural Barriers Act of
11 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.); and

12 (iii) to the extent practicable, ensure
13 that outdoor constructed features sup-
14 porting the accessible trail, including park-
15 ing spaces and restroom facilities, meet the
16 requirements of the Architectural Barriers
17 Act of 1968.

18 (3) COMPLETION.—Not later than 7 years after
19 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
20 concerned, in coordination with stakeholders con-
21 sulted with under paragraph (2)(B), shall complete
22 each accessible trail developed under paragraph (1).

23 (4) MAPS, SIGNAGE, AND PROMOTIONAL MATE-
24 RIALS.—For each accessible trail developed under
25 paragraph (1), the Secretary concerned shall—

1 (A) publish and distribute maps and install
2 signage, consistent with Architectural Barriers
3 Act accessibility guidelines; and

4 (B) coordinate with stakeholders to lever-
5 age any non-Federal resources necessary for the
6 development, stewardship, completion, or pro-
7 motion of the accessible trail.

8 (5) CONFLICT AVOIDANCE WITH OTHER
9 USES.—In developing each accessible trail under
10 paragraph (1), the Secretary concerned shall ensure
11 that the accessible trail—

12 (A) minimizes conflict with—

13 (i) the uses in effect before the date
14 of the enactment of this Act with respect
15 to any trail or road that is part of that ac-
16 cessible trail;

17 (ii) multiple-use areas where biking,
18 hiking, horseback riding, off-highway vehi-
19 cle recreation, or use by pack and saddle
20 stock are existing uses on the date of the
21 enactment of this Act; or

22 (iii) the purposes for which any trail
23 is established under the National Trails
24 System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.); and

1 (B) complies with all applicable land use
2 and management plans of the Federal rec-
3 reational lands and waters on which the acces-
4 sible trail is located.

5 (6) REPORTS.—

6 (A) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 3
7 years after the date of the enactment of this
8 Act, the Secretary concerned, in partnership
9 with stakeholders and other interested organiza-
10 tions, shall prepare and publish an interim re-
11 port that lists the accessible trails developed
12 under this subsection during the previous 3
13 years.

14 (B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 7
15 years after the date of the enactment of this
16 Act, the Secretary concerned, in partnership
17 with stakeholders and other interested organiza-
18 tions, shall prepare and publish a final report
19 that lists the accessible trails developed under
20 this subsection.

21 (e) ACCESSIBLE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
23 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
24 concerned shall select a location to develop at least
25 2 new accessible recreation opportunities—

1 (A) on National Forest System lands in
2 each region of the Forest Service;

3 (B) on land managed by the National Park
4 Service in each region of the National Park
5 Service;

6 (C) on land managed by the Bureau of
7 Land Management in each region of the Bu-
8 reau of Land Management; and

9 (D) on land managed by the United States
10 Fish and Wildlife Service in each region of the
11 United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

12 (2) DEVELOPMENT.—In developing an acces-
13 sible recreation opportunity under paragraph (1),
14 the Secretary concerned—

15 (A) may—

16 (i) create a new accessible recreation
17 opportunity; or

18 (ii) modify an existing recreation op-
19 portunity into an accessible recreation op-
20 portunity; and

21 (B) shall—

22 (i) consult with stakeholders with re-
23 spect to the feasibility and resources nec-
24 essary for completing the accessible recre-
25 ation opportunity;

1 (ii) ensure the accessible recreation
2 opportunity complies with the Architec-
3 tural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.
4 4151 et seq.); and

5 (iii) to the extent practicable, ensure
6 that outdoor constructed features sup-
7 porting the accessible recreation oppor-
8 tunity, including parking spaces and rest-
9 room facilities, meet the requirements of
10 the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968.

11 (3) ACCESSIBLE RECREATION OPPORTUNI-
12 TIES.—The accessible recreation opportunities devel-
13 oped under paragraph (1) may include improving ac-
14 cessibility or access to—

15 (A) camp shelters, camping facilities, and
16 camping units;

17 (B) hunting, fishing, shooting, or archery
18 ranges or locations;

19 (C) snow activities, including skiing and
20 snowboarding;

21 (D) water activities, including kayaking,
22 paddling, canoeing, and boat launch ramps;

23 (E) rock climbing;

24 (F) biking;

25 (G) off-highway vehicle recreation;

- 1 (H) picnic facilities and picnic units;
2 (I) outdoor constructed features; and
3 (J) any other new or existing recreation
4 opportunities identified in consultation with
5 stakeholders under paragraph (2)(B) and con-
6 sistent with the applicable land management
7 plan.

8 (4) COMPLETION.—Not later than 7 years after
9 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
10 concerned, in coordination with stakeholders con-
11 sulted with under paragraph (2), shall complete each
12 accessible recreation opportunity developed under
13 paragraph (1).

14 (5) MAPS, SIGNAGE, AND PROMOTIONAL MATE-
15 RIALS.—For each accessible recreation opportunity
16 developed under paragraph (1), the Secretary con-
17 cerned shall—

18 (A) publish and distribute maps and install
19 signage, consistent with Architectural Barriers
20 Act accessibility guidelines; and

21 (B) coordinate with stakeholders to lever-
22 age any non-Federal resources necessary for the
23 development, stewardship, completion, or pro-
24 motion of the accessible trail.

1 (6) CONFLICT AVOIDANCE WITH OTHER
2 USES.—In developing each accessible recreation op-
3 portunity under paragraph (1), the Secretary con-
4 cerned shall ensure that the accessible recreation op-
5 portunity—

6 (A) minimizes conflict with—

7 (i) the uses in effect before the date
8 of the enactment of this Act with respect
9 to any Federal recreational lands and
10 waters on which the accessible recreation
11 opportunity is located; or

12 (ii) multiple-use areas in existence on
13 the date of the enactment of this Act; and

14 (B) complies with all applicable land use
15 and management plans of the Federal rec-
16 reational lands and waters on which the acces-
17 sible recreational opportunity is located.

18 (7) REPORTS.—

19 (A) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 3
20 years after the date of the enactment of this
21 Act, the Secretary concerned, in partnership
22 with stakeholders and other interested organiza-
23 tions, shall prepare and publish an interim re-
24 port that lists the accessible trails developed

1 under this subsection during the previous 3
2 years.

3 (B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 7
4 years after the date of the enactment of this
5 Act, the Secretary concerned, in partnership
6 with stakeholders and other interested organiza-
7 tions, shall prepare and publish a final report
8 that lists the accessible trails developed under
9 this subsection.

10 (f) ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY.—In carrying out this
11 section, the Secretary concerned may enter into partner-
12 ships, contracts, or agreements with other Federal, State,
13 Tribal, local, or private entities, including existing outfit-
14 ting and guiding services, to make assistive technology
15 available on Federal recreational lands and waters.

16 (g) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in the Act shall be
17 construed to create any conflicting standards with the Ar-
18 chitectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.).

19 **SEC. 3. PROMOTION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION FOR MILI-**
20 **TARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS.**

21 The Secretary concerned, in coordination with the
22 Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of De-
23 fense, shall develop educational and public awareness ma-
24 terials to disseminate to members of the Armed Forces

1 and veterans, including through Transition Assistance
2 Program classes, on—

3 (1) opportunities for members of the Armed
4 Forces and veterans to access Federal recreational
5 lands and waters free of charge under section 805
6 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act
7 (16 U.S.C. 6804);

8 (2) the availability and location of accessible
9 trails, including new accessible trails developed and
10 completed under section 2(a);

11 (3) the availability and location of accessible
12 recreation opportunities, including new accessible
13 recreation opportunities developed and completed
14 under section 2(b);

15 (4) assistive technology assistance pursuant to
16 section 1151(c) of title 38, United States Code;

17 (5) outdoor-related volunteer and wellness pro-
18 grams;

19 (6) the benefits of outdoor recreation for phys-
20 ical and mental health;

21 (7) resources to access guided outdoor trips and
22 other outdoor programs connected to the Depart-
23 ment of Defense, the Department of Veterans Af-
24 fairs, the Department of the Interior, or the Depart-
25 ment of Agriculture; and

1 (8) programs and jobs focused on continuing
2 national service such as Public Land Corps,
3 AmeriCorps, and conservation corps programs.

4 **SEC. 4. MILITARY VETERANS OUTDOOR RECREATION LIAI-**
5 **SONS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries and the Secretary
7 of Veterans Affairs shall each establish within their De-
8 partments the position of Military Veterans Outdoor
9 Recreation Liaison.

10 (b) DUTIES.—The Military Veterans Outdoor Recre-
11 ation Liaison shall—

12 (1) coordinate the implementation of this Act;

13 (2) implement recommendations identified by
14 the Task Force on Outdoor Recreation for Veterans
15 established under section 203 of the Veterans Com-
16 prehensive Prevention, Access to Care, and Treat-
17 ment Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–214), including
18 recommendations related to—

19 (A) identifying new opportunities to for-
20 malize coordination between the Department of
21 Veterans Affairs, Department of Agriculture,
22 Department of the Interior, and partner organi-
23 zations regarding the use of Federal rec-
24 reational lands and waters for facilitating
25 health and wellness for veterans;

1 (B) addressing identified barriers that
2 exist to providing veterans with opportunities to
3 augment the delivery of services for health and
4 wellness through the use of outdoor recreation
5 on Federal recreational lands and waters; and

6 (C) facilitating the use of Federal rec-
7 reational lands and waters for promoting
8 wellness and facilitating the delivery of health
9 care and therapeutic interventions for veterans;

10 (3) coordinate with Military Veterans Outdoor
11 Recreation Liaisons at other Federal agencies and
12 veterans organizations; and

13 (4) promote outdoor recreation experiences for
14 veterans on Federal recreational lands and waters
15 through new and innovative approaches.

16 **SEC. 5. PARTNERSHIPS TO PROMOTE MILITARY AND VET-**
17 **ERAN RECREATION.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary concerned shall
19 seek to enter into partnerships or agreements with State,
20 Tribal, local, or private entities with expertise in outdoor
21 recreation, volunteer, accessibility, and health and wellness
22 programs for members of the Armed Forces or veterans.

23 (b) PARTNERSHIPS.—As part of a partnership or
24 agreement entered into under subsection (a), the Sec-
25 retary concerned may host events on Federal recreational

1 lands and waters designed to promote outdoor recreation
2 among members of the Armed Forces and veterans.

3 (c) FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

4 Under a partnership or agreement entered into pursuant
5 to subsection (a), the Secretary concerned may provide fi-
6 nancial or technical assistance to the entity with which
7 the respective Secretary concerned has entered into the
8 partnership or agreement to assist with—

9 (1) the planning, development, and execution of
10 events, activities, or programs designed to promote
11 outdoor recreation for members of the Armed Forces
12 or veterans; or

13 (2) the acquisition of assistive technology to fa-
14 cilitate improved outdoor recreation opportunities for
15 members of the Armed Forces or veterans.

16 **SEC. 6. NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR MILITARY AND VETERAN**
17 **RECREATION.**

18 (a) STRATEGY.—Not later than 1 year after the date
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretaries, acting joint-
20 ly, shall develop and make public a strategy to increase
21 visits to Federal recreational lands and waters by mem-
22 bers of the Armed Forces, veterans, and Gold Star Family
23 members.

24 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—A strategy developed under
25 subsection (a)—

1 (1) shall—

2 (A) establish objectives and quantifiable
3 targets for increasing visits to Federal rec-
4 reational lands and waters by members of the
5 Armed Forces, veterans, and Gold Star Family
6 members;

7 (B) include an opportunity for public no-
8 tice and comment;

9 (C) emphasize increased recreation oppor-
10 tunities on Federal recreational lands and
11 waters for members of the Armed Forces, vet-
12 erans, and Gold Star Family members; and

13 (D) provide the anticipated costs to achieve
14 the objectives and meet the targets established
15 under subparagraph (B); and

16 (2) shall not establish any preference between
17 similar recreation facilitated by noncommercial or
18 commercial entities.

19 (c) UPDATE TO STRATEGY.—Not later than 5 years
20 after the date of the publication of the strategy required
21 under subsection (a), and every 5 years thereafter, the
22 Secretaries shall update the strategy and make public the
23 update.

1 **SEC. 7. RECREATION RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

2 Section 804(d)(5) of the Federal Lands Recreation
3 Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6803(d)(5)), is amended—

4 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “11” and
5 inserting “12”; and

6 (2) in subparagraph (D)(ii)—

7 (A) by striking “Three” and inserting
8 “Four”; and

9 (B) after subclause (III), by inserting the
10 following:

11 “(IV) Veterans organizations, as
12 such term is defined in section 9 of
13 the Military and Veterans in Parks
14 Act.”.

15 **SEC. 8. CAREER AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR**
16 **VETERANS.**

17 (a) **VETERAN HIRING.**—The Secretary concerned is
18 strongly encouraged to hire veterans in all positions re-
19 lated to the management of Federal recreational lands and
20 waters.

21 (b) **PILOT PROGRAM.**—

22 (1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of the In-
23 terior, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary
24 of Labor for Veterans’ Employment and Training
25 and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall establish
26 a pilot program under which veterans are employed

1 by the Federal Government in positions that relate
2 to the conservation and resource management activi-
3 ties of the Department of the Interior.

4 (2) POSITIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior
5 shall—

6 (A) identify vacant positions in the De-
7 partment of the Interior that are appropriate to
8 fill using the pilot program; and

9 (B) to the extent practicable, fill such posi-
10 tions using the pilot program.

11 (3) APPLICATION OF CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.—A
12 veteran employed under the pilot program shall be
13 treated as an employee as defined by section 2105
14 of title 5, United States Code.

15 (4) BRIEFINGS AND REPORT.—

16 (A) INITIAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 60
17 days after the date of the enactment of this
18 Act, the Secretary of the Interior and the As-
19 sistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Em-
20 ployment and Training shall jointly provide to
21 the appropriate congressional committees a
22 briefing on the pilot program under this sub-
23 section, which shall include—

1 (i) a description of how the pilot pro-
2 gram will be carried out in a manner to re-
3 duce the unemployment of veterans; and

4 (ii) any recommendations for legisla-
5 tive actions to improve the pilot program.

6 (B) IMPLEMENTATION BRIEFING.—Not
7 later than 1 year after the date on which the
8 pilot program under subsection (a) commences,
9 the Secretary of the Interior and the Assistant
10 Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment
11 and Training shall jointly provide to the appro-
12 priate congressional committees a briefing on
13 the implementation of the pilot program.

14 (C) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 30
15 days after the date on which the pilot program
16 under subsection (a) is completed, the Secretary
17 of the Interior and the Assistant Secretary of
18 Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training
19 shall jointly submit to the appropriate congress-
20 sional committees a report on the pilot program
21 that includes the following:

22 (i) The number of veterans who ap-
23 plied to participate in the pilot program.

24 (ii) The number of such veterans em-
25 ployed under the pilot program.

1 (iii) The number of veterans identified
2 in clause (ii) who transitioned to full-time
3 positions with the Federal Government
4 after participating in the pilot program.

5 (iv) Any other information the Sec-
6 retary and the Assistant Secretary deter-
7 mine appropriate with respect to meas-
8 uring the effectiveness of the pilot pro-
9 gram.

10 (5) DURATION.—The authority to carry out the
11 pilot program under this subsection shall terminate
12 on the date that is 2 years after the date on which
13 the pilot program commences.

14 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
15 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
16 sional committees” means—

17 (1) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and the
18 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of
19 Representatives; and

20 (2) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and the
21 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
22 Senate.

23 (d) OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM ATTEND-
24 ANCE.—Each Secretary of a military department is en-
25 couraged to allow members of the Armed Forces on active

1 duty status to participate in programs related to environ-
2 mental stewardship or guided outdoor recreation.

3 **SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) **ACCESSIBLE TRAIL.**—The term “accessible
6 trail” means a trail that meets the requirements for
7 a trail under the Architectural Barriers Act accessi-
8 bility guidelines.

9 (2) **ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT ACCESSI-**
10 **BILITY GUIDELINES.**—The term “Architectural Bar-
11 riers Act accessibility guidelines” means the accessi-
12 bility guidelines set forth in appendices C and D to
13 part 1191 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations
14 (or successor regulations).

15 (3) **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY.**—The term “as-
16 sistive technology” means any item, piece of equip-
17 ment, or product system, whether acquired commer-
18 cially, modified, or customized, that is used to in-
19 crease, maintain, or improve functional capabilities
20 of individuals with disabilities, particularly with par-
21 ticipating in outdoor recreation activities.

22 (4) **FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES.**—
23 The term “Federal land management agencies”
24 means the National Park Service, the Bureau of

1 Land Management, the United States Fish and
2 Wildlife Service, and the Forest Service.

3 (5) FEDERAL RECREATIONAL LANDS AND
4 WATERS.—The term “Federal recreational lands and
5 waters” has the meaning given the term “Federal
6 recreational lands and waters” in section 802(5) of
7 the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16
8 U.S.C. 6801(5)).

9 (6) GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMBER.—The term
10 “Gold Star Family member” means an individual
11 described in section 3.3 of Department of Defense
12 Instruction 1348.36.

13 (7) OUTDOOR CONSTRUCTED FEATURE.—The
14 term “outdoor constructed feature” has the meaning
15 given such term in Appendix C to part 1191 of title
16 36, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regu-
17 lations).

18 (8) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
19 means the Secretary of the Interior and the Sec-
20 retary of Agriculture.

21 (9) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term “Sec-
22 retary concerned” means—

23 (A) the Secretary of the Interior, with re-
24 spect to lands under the jurisdiction of the Sec-
25 retary; and

1 (B) the Secretary of Agriculture, with re-
2 spect to National Forest System lands.

3 (10) VETERANS ORGANIZATION.—The term
4 “veterans organization” means a service provider
5 with outdoor recreation experience that serves mem-
6 bers of the Armed Forces, veterans, or Gold Star
7 Family members.

○